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Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation
16281 Q Road, P.O. Box 116
Mayetta, Kansas 66509-9114

Prairie Band of Potawatomi News

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indian Tribe

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Potawatomi Tribal Members

Gaming Commission Elections in February start off the political year for the Potawatomi.

An announcement of the Election Board

First of all, the Election Board would like to notify you that our office has moved from the O-Ketche-Show-O-Now Center to the new Government Center. Our office hours remain 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Our new phone is (785) 966-3910.

We have 2 elections this year. The first election is February 25, 2000 for (2) Tribal Gaming Commissioner positions. We have eight (8) candidates who have filed for these positions. Candidates are: Laura (Harrison) Abeyta, Sharon Jean Anderson, Calvin Evans, Marty M. Greemore, Roland Matchie, Doris A. Potts, Ruth Vega, and Shawna Wabaunsee. The candidates have a brief introduction/background information included in this newspaper starting on page four.

Your ballot for the Gaming Commissioner position's election will be sent out on January 12, 2000. You will have until February 25, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. to return your ballot and voter certificate to: Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians, Tribal Election Board, P.O. Box 213, Mayetta, 66509-0213. Again, we caution votes to carefully read the voting instructions. Your ballot and ballot envelope will be yellow and we have changed the format on the voting instructions. These voting instructions are provided to ensure your vote is counted correctly. Voters, please do not misplace your ballot! Under no circumstances can another ballot and voter certificate be mailed to anyone if the ballot is misplaced, lost, stolen, or mutilated.

The second tribal election notice will be sent out in March. The Tribal Council will have four (4) positions whose terms will expire in July. They are Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and two (2) Council Persons. The date to file for candidacy will be included in this notice. The election date will be held after our annual General Council meeting in July.

As of December 30, 1999, we have a total of 1,853 registered voters and 1,474 who are not registered to vote. Half of these 1,853 registered voters did vote in the last election. It is our hope that more voters will cast their vote in the upcoming elections. In the previous election, 100 ballots were disqualified with the biggest problem of ballots having no voter's certificate. Without the voter certificate, the judge had no way of knowing if you were a registered voter. These voter's certificates are checked with the "Registered-Voter List." We received 15 ballots after the deadline date, disqualifying those votes.

We have had a few problems with name changes involving marriage, divorce, remarriage, and adoptions. It is your responsibility to keep our offices informed of all status changes, including new addresses, so that you can be kept informed of all tribal affairs, etc. If you have a change, please notify the Enrollment Office. The Enrollment Office then notifies the Election and Per Capita Office of all changes. A brief letter to the Enrollment Office will be appreciated. Currently, we have 100 tribal members that we do not have current addresses for.

In October's General Council meeting, the idea of Primary Elections was briefly addressed. The tribal lawyer has drafted a letter to the BIA regarding the primary election process if we should decide to go this route. No response has been received from the BIA. An update will be presented at January's General Council meeting by Angie Wahweotten.

Our Election Ordinance must be compatible with our Tribal Constitution. Do we want Primary Elections? In a recent Tribal Election's Workshop, we found out that Primary Elections work great for the big tribes such as the Navajo (50,000 voters) and the Blackfeet (17,000 voters). We have 1,853 registered voters. What is your opinion on this suggested Primary Election idea? Please write us and voice your opinion.

The Election Board is pleased with the increased voter participation. To be a registered voter, the tribal member must be 18 years of age and be eligible to vote by the deadline date of the election. Once you are registered, you do not have to register again. To become an enrolled tribal member, you must file an application with the Enrollment office so that they may determine your eligibility. We mention this because we receive calls from tribal members who think that because they are enrolled, they are also automatically registered voters. This is *not* the case! If you would like to register to vote in all tribal elections, please notify our office and we will immediately send you a voter registration form.

With tribal population and revenues continuing to grow, remember, that voting in each election ensures you a voice in electing tribal council members who will work for the best interests of our Nation. Become pro-active in your tribal government voice by casting your vote. It could be a vote that impacts your future!

Lastly, but of utmost importance to our offices is that we'd like to stress that you write **CLEAR** or preferably type your address updates/changes, etc.. This is a very time-consuming process when we cannot read your information to quickly enter your reported changes on our databases. We kindly appreciate your cooperation on this very important request. Me-gwetch!

General Council Meeting January 15, 2000

Saturday, January 15, 2000
Prairie Band Potawatomi Bingo Hall
16277 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509

AGENDA

Registration opens at 8:00 a.m.

Call to Order @ 9:00 a.m.

Invocation

Tribal Chairperson address

General Council Resolution #99-02:
Approving four (4) General Council Meetings a year

Harrah's Prairie Band Casino Expansion Plans:
Presentation by Representatives of Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Wisconsin Satellite Office Issue

Committee Reports:

Constitution Committee
Primary election of All Elected Office
Tribal Court System
Election of Tribal Judge
Election of Police Chief
Finance Review Committee Report

Gaming Commission hiring policies and practices report

Gaming Commission Candidate Profiles

(start on page four and finish on page five).

Candidates include:

Laura Abeyta,
Sharon Anderson,
Calvin Evans,
Marty Greemore,

Roland Matchie
Doris Potts
Ruth Vega
Shawna Wabaunsee

1999: The Year in Review

Spring

On March 26, the Tribe dedicated the opening of Road 158 or the main road going through the reservation. The project cost close to \$3 million and brought a paved road to the reservation for the first time.

Prairie Band attorney, David Prager told a meeting of Jackson County government leaders that the tribe would finish a convenience store near their casino in the spring. This means all three local Indian tribes in or near Jackson County would have a convenience store open sometime this year.

The Jackson County Commission and Prairie Band Potawatomi officials met to discuss a possible cross-deputization agreement. In which county sheriff's deputies would be deputized by the sheriff's department. No action has been taken toward that end yet.

Billy Mills visits the reservation and over 300 people deliver a presentation on his life, athletic accomplishments and some hurdles along the way.

The Potawatomi Tribe made it clear that members want their own license plate to be recognized by government officials outside the tribe. County officials have allowed the tags to be displayed, although the state's Department of Revenue does not recognize them as legal.

Montie R. Deer, recently appointed Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission made a site visit to the Potawatomi Reservation. His visit was meant to introduce himself and to relay his expectations on regulation.

The new Tribal Government Center was completed. The building houses the Tribal Council/staff, Gaming Commission/staff, tribal attorney, Per-Capita Program, Election Board, and the Enrollment. The building was paid for with casino revenues.

Nation Station— gas station and convenience store completed. The station is located on the property north of the casino.

Summer

The Hannaville Potawatomi hosted a Language Scholars College in Lawrence, Kansas. The program is designed to develop new speakers and teachers of the Potawatomi language.

The Tribe sponsored its annual Pow-Wow, June 11, 12, 13.

Over 150 tribal members traveled 710 miles to attend the 7th Annual Gathering of Potawatomi Nations in Dowagiac, Michigan.

A Land Management Report states to date the Tribe owns 5,812.24 acres of trust land. An additional 19,745 acres of trust land is owned by individual tribal members for a total of 25, 557.24 acres in trust. These figures indicate the tribe/individuals now own 32.98% of land within the reservation boundaries.

Fall

Construction starts in October on a new building for the Senior Citizens on the reservation. The time-frame for completion is estimated to be 300 days.

New road improvement plans begin and slated for the year 2000. See article in this paper.

In the fall, the tribe opened PARR Ranch, a halfway house for those suffering from substance abuse.

In December, the tribal council agreed to provide local matching funds (for right of ways, land purchase, utility relocation, dwelling relocation and preliminary engineering—roughly \$400,000 and the balance will come from state funds) for a \$4 million interchange at the intersection of U.S. Highway 75 and 150th Road, the road where the casino is located. The agreement is necessary for safety reasons for both Indian and non-Indian alike. The project is awaiting state approval.

Tribal Government News

Winter, 2000

Prairie Band of Potawatomi News

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Chairperson Report

Mamie Rupnicki

Sovereignty as a tool for Economic Development

The ongoing debate about the powers of Indian nations in the United States reflects the core issues of the debate over sovereignty, in this country and around the world. Who has the right to make and enforce what kinds decisions within what boundaries? While the courts have generally upheld the sovereignty of tribes as "limited dependent nations" just what that means is subject to heated debate. Congress, tribal members, and state officials argue about tax powers, who has the rights to natural resources, and whether tribes should be immune from lawsuits. Sound familiar? Over time, already complex laws continue to evolve and become even more complex. We as Tribal Leaders, must be more diligent in our efforts to stop these proposed statutes.

Sovereignty defines nations, but it also defines interest areas that cross boundaries and other political Borders. We, Tribal Leaders, think that someplace between the broad philosophical implications and the specific legal rulings, there is a need for a pragmatic look at sovereignty as a tool for economic development.

Sovereignty affects our every day lives in profound ways. It's a symbol that represents freedom and power, and it's a practical matter defined by laws. It's most effectively implemented through shared understanding and unwritten custom, but negotiation, legislation, and sometimes force are needed to maintain sovereign boundaries. We the people, shape our sovereignty as we learn about the larger issues, participate in policy discussions, and use our power to vote. We believe that the way we define our borders makes all the difference in the world in how successful we are in using our sovereignty to our advantage.

On different reservations we encounter two different concepts of economic development. One is a "jobs and income" approach...The second is "nation-building." The second approach we see to economic development is "nation-building." Nation building puts the spotlight on building Indian nations that can flourish over the long haul. It's concept that focuses on putting in place an environment in which people want to invest, not just because it's the right or because they owe it to the tribe, but because they believe their investment will pay off. If investors don't see a possibility of a pay-off or some sort, why should they invest? The reward may be monetary profits, the satisfaction of a job well done, or the rising quality of life in the community. It may be in reduced dependence on the feds, or in bolstering tribal sovereignty.

And those investors aren't just people with dollars. Everyone who works for a tribal government, tribal program or tribal enterprise is an investor. Anybody with ideas or time or energy or goodwill or dollars or skills, who's willing to bet those assets on the future of the nation, is an investor.

Nation building requires us to think about economic development in new ways and to pursue it very differently. It requires us to talk about what kind of

nation we want to build and how to set about doing it. What we missed is the fact that the key to economic growth is not resources. It's institutions.

It's things like stability in government, clear rules governing contracts and responsibilities, effective judicial systems.

The solution is to build a nation in which business can flourish. It involves



creating an environment in which the governing infrastructure and legal infrastructure—the rules and procedures by which the society is run—support prosperity.

The first key to economic development is sovereignty. "De Facto" sovereignty, meaning genuine decision-making control over affairs, is a necessary prerequisite for economic development. Who is really deciding the economic strategy? In Indian Country, when the answer to this question is 'the Tribe', we have de facto sovereignty—sovereignty in fact in practice.

While sovereignty as a legal phenomenon waxes and wanes with federal court decisions and legislation, today the potential for de facto sovereignty is substantial. An assertive and capable tribe can take effective control of many economic decisions away from other contenders for control. In virtually every case of sustained economic development on American Indian reservations, the tribe is making the primary economic decisions, not by outsiders. In every case, the tribe is in the driver's seat. The logic of this is clear. As long as the BIA or some other outside organization carries primary responsibility for economic conditions on Indian reservations, development decisions will reflect the goals of those organizations, not the goals of the tribe. Furthermore, when outsiders make bad decisions they don't pay the price, the tribe does. When the tribe takes responsibility for what happens economically, they have started down the path to improving economic conditions. Assertions of sovereignty can have very concert payoffs.

It often has been asserted that if tribes wish to be sovereign, they must first establish sound economies. I think this is backwards. What I believe is that if you want sound economy; you need first to be sovereign. There are three reasons for this.

First, sovereignty brings with it accountability. Those who's resources and well being are at stake are the ones calling the shots.

Second, the sovereign status of tribes offers distinct legal and economic market opportunities, from reduced tax and regulator burdens for industry to unique niches for gaming and the commercial use of wildlife.

And third, sovereignty secures the bases of development itself: control of one's own affairs and resources.

It is no coincidence that after tribal self-determination became federal policy in the 1970s' a significant number of tribes have begun to break the relentless pattern of reservation poverty and dependence. Before self-determination, there was very little in the way of sustained economic development on Indian reservations.

There is a major policy lesson in this. The lesson is that sovereignty is one of the primary development resources a tribe can have. The reinforcement of tribal sovereignty should be the central thrust of public policy. One of the quickest ways to bring reservation development to a halt and prolong the impoverished condition of reservations would be to undermine tribal sovereignty.

Indian nations enjoy certain rights and powers, first by virtue of their inherent sovereignty and second as a result of extended negotiations and interactions with the United States that have led to various specifications of the substance of their sovereignty. That sovereignty is the first key to successful reservation economic development, but sovereignty, in and of itself, is no guarantee of success.

As we move forward into this new millennium, we know that there will be many challenges, some old and some new. What do we as a Nation hope to achieve in this Century? What legacy will we leave to future generations?

This sovereign Indian nation has a long history of battling in the courts to affirm its sovereignty. It has won the right to control its own destiny. It is resource-rich and people-rich, but it remains poor.

The problem is the inability of this tribe to exercise its powers effectively. Its constitution provides a system of government in which it is extremely difficult to get anything done, but change is on the way.

Historically, its governmental system was obsolete. The instability in tribal government means massive personnel changes occur overnight following the changes in administration. Few good records are kept; skilled people get hired and soon throw up their hands and quit. It's difficult to keep track of money. Tribal plans change from one day to the next. Enterprises fail because of governmental interference.

This is hardly a promising environment for economic development. Outside investors won't invest—they don't like the risks such an environment creates.

Equally important, inside investors—tribal members who might not have a lot of money but who have ideas or energy or skills—won't invest either. Why should they invest their energy in the tribal future when the environment is one of uncertainty, political favoritism, and instability? As a result, the tribe gets little return on its resources, development is stagnant, and its people live in poverty.

Now is the time to look toward the future and build on the foundation that we inherited.

Vice-Chairperson Report

Vestina Nonken



Photo by Gary E. Mitchell

Bill and Vestina Nonken
At the 1999 Senior Citizen Christmas Party

In the absence of the Chairperson, my duties are to take care of the functions of the chairperson position. However, my work also consists of being liaison to various tribal departments and serving as a Personnel Officer.

The Senior Citizen program is an interesting department to work with. There are many frustrations that derive from this due to the fact that there are so many unmet needs in our senior citizen group. My belief is that we should be building an assisted living facility and a nursing home adjacent to the new senior center. The need is there! We have many elders in various nursing homes in the state, and our elders would like to come home. Also, I would like to see a tribal home health agency formed as soon as possible on the reservation. We have a great need for home health care among the elders and disabled. With the nursing training among our Native Americans living in the community, we would definitely have sufficient staffing. Why not put our dollars into the above projects as soon as possible? Why wait two - three years? Now is the time our elders need the help.

My duties also consist of being the liaison for all Indian Health Services programs. This includes the Community Health Representative Program and the Alcohol & Drug Program. I also sit on the Kansas Service Unit Health Board that represents the following 3 tribes: Iowa, Sac and Fox, and Potawatomi. My position is Secretary to the Health Board. Currently, I am also Chairperson of the Health Board. This Health Board acts as the advisory committee to the Indian Health Service Clinic facility. I am

also an alternate to the National Steering Committee regarding the Indian Health Improvement Act PL-437. This position keeps me quite busy, attending six meetings up to this time. The PL-437 revolves around the health services for all Native Americans, encompassing both reservation and urban populations. This is the Act whereby funding for our health programs are derived. We must continuously strive to persuade Congress to fund our needs appropriately. This entails our need to keep a strong and working relationship with the Congressional people in our area. The Indian Health Service pays for my travel and lodging to attend these meetings; therefore, there is no cost to our tribe.

I have been active in the Summer Youth Work Program, working with Anita Evans and James Jackson. This program has been very successful and one which should be continued in the ensuing years. Mamie Mattwaoshshe and I have been designated by the Tribal Council to implement the Tribal Bingo Enterprise which is being transferred to the tribe from Harrah's Casino. This project is currently underway, and the "old bingo hall" is anticipated to be open for business during the first week in January. **Yes!!** We are moving the bingo operation back to the old bingo hall. All departments have given us their support and we are thankful to them for the work that they have done for us. Teamwork has been great! I am a great pow wow supporter. I remain active in the Jackson County community service work, as it takes all community efforts to make our community successful.

Tribe to Build Senior Citizen Complex

by James Jackson

One of the most frequently asked questions to Tribal Council Members is "what are we doing for our Tribal Elders." In an October General Council Meeting members of the Building Committee presented a five year plan and drawings for a new Senior Citizen Complex.

The new complex will address many problems suffered by the elderly. In the first phase of the plan a new 18,500 square foot Senior Citizen Building will be built. The new building will replace the small section of space the Senior Citizen Program presently occupy in the gym. Construction on the building began in the fall of October and is scheduled for completion in the year 2,000.

The new building will offer senior citizens a place they can finally call their own. It will come complete with a full basement, full kitchen, dining area for 100 people, living room, recreational room, crafts room, offices, exercise and a one story elevator. This is the start of phase one in the five year plan. The presentation to General Council in October contained phase II of the plan. Phase II of the plan starting this year will include a nursing home, assisted living apartments, duplexes and streets. Currently the tribe are awaiting contracts so this part of the project can get off the ground.

A complex of this magnitude cannot be rushed into without a lot of research. This project

wouldn't get off the ground without doing a complete study of the area selected. Things like water, three phase electricity, sewer treatment are just a few items that had to be considered.

The tribe hopes construction can begin sometime in late spring when the contracts are signed and the architect finishes the final design and

drawings. Before the project is finished more research will be followed up regarding what it will take to operate a nursing home and assisted living apartments. This research will tell us what kind of staff is required and what kind of regulations that have to be followed.

I hope this will answer all those questions such as, "what are we doing for the elders." When the project is completed it will enable elders to remain on the reservation instead of having to reside in an environment strange to them, such as a nursing home located miles away from where they grew up! It will also give members a chance to move back to the reservation. The Building Committee has researched this

project for more than two years before presenting this to the Tribal Council and General Council. This is the only the beginning of what we hope to accomplish for our elders. When the new Senior Citizen Building is complete seniors will have a place to spend the entire day among friends and relatives. The building will also include a walking track located outside of the facility.

The building will be totally funded from casino revenues. This money will come from the Revenue Allocation Pie Chart that was approved by the General Council in 1998.

PRAIRIE BAND OF POTAWATOMI NEWS

EDITORS: GARY E. MITCHELL, JAMES JACKSON

The Prairie Band of Potawatomi News is a quarterly newspaper of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation. Opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi News staff, the Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation.

The Prairie Band of Potawatomi News encourages and welcome letters, editorials, articles about Potawatomi accomplishments and photos from its readers. This publication reserves the right to reject, edit or condense items submitted.

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Reservation/Local News

Winter, 2000

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Veterans honored at Potawatomi Pow-Wow

By John E. Chambers

Holton - The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and its We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410 saluted their veterans and celebrated their culture during the second annual Veterans Powwow on Saturday at the Jackson County fairgrounds in Holton.

Special honors at the powwow were accorded to veterans Julia Kabance, 89, of St. Mary's, and the late Elwin Shopteese.

Honors of a different sort were given to a younger generation when Racheal Lynn Deo, 14, of Mayetta, was announced as the Prairie Band Princess for 1999-2000. She was crowned by last year's princess, Annie Rose Potts, of Mayetta. The first runner-up was Nez-zat Shipshee of Mayetta.

Activities of the afternoon and evening, from the two grand entries at 2 and 7 p.m. through the ceremonial and competition dancing at the fair building, were accompanied by the steady beat of the drum.

The grand entries were led by a legionnaire carrying the eagle staff, and followed by other Legionnaires in uniform carrying the U.S., American Legion Post, POW-MIA and Prairie Band colors. Following them was a column of tribal members, stepping in a slow march around a circle, accompanied by one of the two drums at the powwow.

During the opening ceremony, a group of small boys sang "Flag Song" in Potawatomi, and "Victory Song" was performed by Whistling Wind, of Horton, the host northern drum. Gary Mitchell, a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, led the invocation, again in the Potawatomi language. Then "Memorial Song" was performed by the Night Hawks, of Lawrence, the host southern drum.

Throughout the day, a variety of people participated in the arena activities. There were elaborately costumed dancers and others not in costume, older participants and toddlers.

The living honored veteran, Julia Kabance, was born on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation on August 10, 1910. Her parents were Mary Kewanka

and Frank Kabance. She attended school on the reservation, in Holton, at Haskell Vocational School and at the University of Kansas. Kabance was inducted into the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (later the Army Air Force) on March 17, 1943. She took basic training at Fort Des Moines (Iowa) Cavalry Post, where she was housed in horse stables that had been converted into barracks.

She was one of 13 women sent to Tacoma, Wash., and achieved the rank of staff sergeant as a general

Infantry, 35th Division, in Normandy, northern France, the Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe.

For his service in battle at Omaha Beach on July 7, 1944, he won a battlefield commission and rose to the rank of captain. He won a Bronze Star for heroic duty in military operations near Heme, Germany, on April 10, 1945.

After he completed military service, Shopteese devoted his life to alcohol prevention programs and helping American Indian people get a new start in life.

Also recognized at the powwow was Vestina Nonken, of Mayetta, vice chairwoman of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation.

Princess Racheal Deo, who is a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, is the daughter of Jan Vincent Deo and Tina Catron. She is a student at Royal Valley Middle School. An honor student, Racheal has been active in softball, volleyball and basketball.

She was a finalist for the New York model search in Kansas City, was first runner-up at the Shawnee Lake Allied Tribes Powwow this year, and was second runner-up at the Pokagan Potawatomi Gathering in Michigan and at last year's Potawatomi Veterans Powwow.

Racheal was head lady dancer at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Powwow. She is a member of the Royal Valley Dance Club and the school's

student council.

At Saturday's powwow, Deo danced jingle dress dances.

Troy Littleaxe, of Bartlesville, Okla., was the powwow master of ceremonies. Terry Moore, of Topeka, was the head gourd dancer; David Cornelius, of Topeka, was the head male dancer; Jody Littleaxe, of Bartlesville, was the head female dancer; and Perkins Whitetail, of Mayetta, was the arena director.

Northern Life, Topeka Capital Journal, November 26, 1999.

clerk for the Adjutant Section at McCord Air Force Base at Tacoma. She worked seven days a week for \$83 a month until VE Day, when her weekends became free.

Kabance was honorably discharged Dec. 14, 1945. She earned the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal and a Good Conduct Medal.

She joined the American Legion in 1946, and has been a member of American Legion posts in Topeka, the Northwest, Rossville and most recently the We-Ta-Se Post 410.

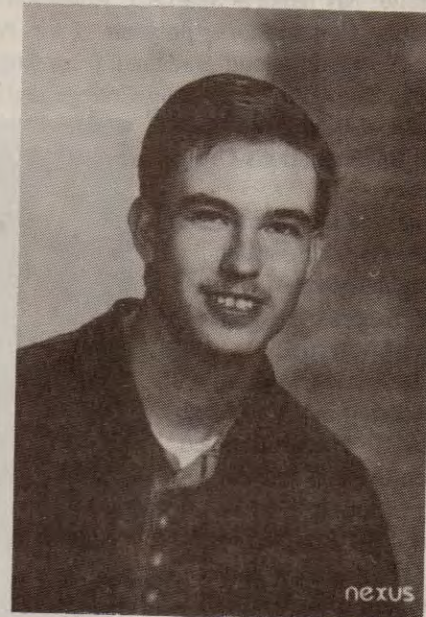
Elwin Shopteese, the deceased veteran honored at the powwow Saturday, also was one of the two honorees at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Powwow in June 1999. He served in E Company of the 137th



Photos by Gary E. Mitchell

Joe Hale and Potawatomi Youth singing the Flag Song

Washburn Graduate



Wade Pahmahmie

Wade Pahmahmie graduated from Washburn University on December 17, 1999 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. He has a double major in management and finance.

Wade was on the Dean's List the Spring of 1996 and the Fall of 1997. He received the following scholarships: Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education, Washburn University Academic, Gladys E. Routh Memorial, Independent Insurance Agents of Topeka and Arthur Shultz.

Wade is the son of Albert and Phyllis Pahmahmie, Topeka. He is the grandson of Albert and Dorothy Bomar, Meriden, and the late Richard and Josie Pahmahmie.



Royal Valley High School Native American Club Pow Wow

January 22 & 23, 2000

Royal Valley High School Gymnasium

Hoyt, Kansas

Grand Entry

Saturday, Jan.22 - 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Jan.23 - 1:00 p.m.

Host Drum: Little Soldier Singers/Mayetta, Ks.

Invited Drum: Meskwaki Nation/Tama, Iowa

Contest Dancing - Point System to be used - Tiny Tots (6 & Under) - Day Money
Admission to be charged / Concessions available. Dancers must register by 4:00 pm Sat.

Jr. Boys (7-11 yrs.)

**Fancy
Traditional
Grass**

Teen Boys (12-17 yrs.)

**Fancy
Traditional
Grass**

Jr. Girls (7-11 yrs.)

**Fancy Shawl
Traditional
Jingle**

Teen Girls (12-17 yrs.)

**Fancy Shawl
Traditional
Jingle**

Men's (18 & over)

**Fancy
Traditional (combined)
Grass**

Women (18 & over)

**Fancy Shawl
Traditional (combined)
Jingle**

Head Lady Dancer: Josette Wahwasuck, Prairie Band Potawatomi

Head Man Dancer: Jeremy Shield, Crow/Oglala Lakota

Arena Director: Perkins Whitetail, Cheyenne/Arapaho

M.C.: Dean Whitebreast, Meskwaki Nation

Color Guard: We-Ta-Se, Post 410, Mayetta, Kansas

Public Welcome

Sponsored by: Royal Valley H.S. Native American Club

For more info: Call (785) 986-6251 Day or (785) 966-2602 Evening

Not responsible for accidents/Drug free environment

Gaming Commission Candidates

Winter, 2000

Prairie Band of Potawatomi News

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Gaming Commission Candidate Sharon J. Anderson

Hello! My name is Sharon J. Anderson and I am running for a Gaming Commissioner position. I was born and raised in the Mayetta community and graduated from Royal Valley High School in 1981, Highland Community College and Kansas State University. I have also attended Haskell Indian Nations University.

I am the daughter of Judy (Jacobson) Darnell and granddaughter of Charles and Virginia (Delg) Jacobson of Mayetta.

I have been working with the casino business since May 1996 when I helped open the first Indian Gaming Casino in Kansas. In July 1997 I started working at the Prairie Band Casino and Bingo Hall. I have now been with Harrah's Prairie Band Casino for two years with my anniversary date being on December 22, 1997. I have a total of 3 1/2 years experience in the casino business. The jobs I have held are Casino cashier, Fillbank, and jackpot window, Mainbank, Vault, Cage Shift Supervisor, Income Control Auditor and Human Resources Training Clerk. My current position is in Human Resources as a Training Specialist.

I want to make a difference with your help and support by keeping you informed of tribal gaming issues. I have always wanted to work directly with our people and to be of service to our nation. Thank you for your consideration.



Gaming Commission Candidate Shawna Wabaunsee

Bozho, I am Shawna Wabaunsee daughter of Will and Drusa Wabaunsee of Hoyt, Kansas. During the past four years, as your elected Gaming Commissioner, I have gained a great amount of knowledge and experience in Indian Gaming.

Currently, the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) has mandated that each Casino and Bingo operations must have established Minimum Internal Control Standards (MICS) gaming rules and regulations. I work diligently with my fellow commissioners in writing and rewriting the MICS. The Internal Controls will help ensure that the gaming operations are regulated; that our Nation is the primary beneficiary of the Casino and Bingo money and gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both gaming operators and the players.

My goal is to continue strengthening gaming regulations and financial accountability through the Internal Control Standards. I plan to work for a certificate of self-regulation from NIGC for Class II gaming. Class II self-regulation will provide a financial benefit to our Nation and reduce Federal regulation on our operation.

I ask for your vote on February 25, 2000. I will continue to do my best to ensure the integrity of our gaming operations. My experience will help us in the new era of Indian gaming. I can use the experience I have to go forward and I will not have to learn what needs to be accomplished.

If you would like to know more about me and Indian gaming, please contact me at (785) 966-4060. Thank you for your support.

Gaming Commissioner Candidate Roland J. Matchie

Education:

High School graduate;
Post graduate in the mechanical field;
Graduate in the field of Biblical study.

Experience:

Ordained Minister;
Former member of the PBP Tribal Council;
Certified Small Engine Mechanic;
Past Deputy of Jackson County Sheriff's Dept.;
Served as an instructor of Heavy Equipment Operation;
Former member of Operating Engineers Local 101;
Served as an instructor of Small Engine Mechanics;
Taught Automotive Mechanics;
Former Roads and Bridge Supervisor for Tribe;
Former Housing Inspector for HUD;
Licensed Plumber;
Past Community Development Coordinator for Tribe;
Have owned my own plumbing shop;
Owned an automotive salvage yard;
Owned a small engine sales and service;
Have experience in working with Tribal Council, Congressmen,
Senators, City Councils, County Commissioners, etc.;
Worked with budgets as a businessman and an employee.

I worked as a Facilities Supervisor for Harrah's Prairie Band Potawatomi Casino and I know the importance of the Potawatomi Gaming Commission and Title 12. I am presently employed as an assistant supervisor in the Plumbing Department at the Home Depot Home Improvement Warehouse.

I would very much enjoy serving as YOUR Gaming Commissioner. I would work toward the benefit of the whole Tribe as well as upholding all of the laws and regulations to the best of my ability. I see a great need to continue on and improve the services that are provided to the Tribal People through the revenue available. We need to be strong in our Self-Determination and we can do this with a strong Economic development and an enhanced employment opportunity for Tribal Members.

Thank you,
Roland Matchie

Gaming Commissioner Candidate Laura Abeyta

Happy New Year!!

What an exciting time it is for all of us. We are truly entering a new age of prosperity, and opportunities. This year, we have a great responsibility. We need to elect from our ranks, the people we want to lead us into this new millennium.

It has been my privilege to serve the PBP nation in various positions since my return to the reservation. In March of 1993, I began by gathering signatures from the people to get the Tribal Council to change the Laws to create a separate Commission. (Originally it was set up for the Council to be the Commission) By July of '93, the people had a separate entity, thus assuring a process for checks, and balances. I served on the commission from July of '93 until July of '97. During that time, we got our Class II (Bingo) operation, licensed and ready, and we concentrated our efforts on getting a gaming Compact with the State of Kansas. I spent 36 days at the Capital that year (more than any other tribal member). When the compact was passed on the last day of the come-back session, in the last hour of business, I don't think anybody who was there will ever forget the elation, and relief that we felt.

The next major accomplishment was defining the electronic games of chance allowed by the Compact. Our hearings resulted in the full-blown slot machines enjoyed at the 4 Indian Casinos in Kansas. My degree in electronics, as well as the 13 years I spent in electronics business was helpful in this process. Getting the slots resulted in a 2.5% difference in our management contract.

After graduating High School at Marty, S.D., 2 kids, 5 years working for the phone company, I went back to school. With an Associates degree in electronics, I got a job with NCR, as a field engineer. I was one of the first females to enter that field. It was an exciting and rewarding career. But not fulfilling enough. It was time to come home. Since then, besides the Gaming Education, and experience, I have also represented the Tribe on the Jackson County Economic Development Board, the National Indian Gaming Association, and as a Tribal lobbyist during the 1999 Legislative Session.

My goal is to make a difference. I gave my all to the people when I served them in the past, and would like to continue to do so. Please vote wisely.

With love and respect,
Laura Abeyta

Gaming Commission Candidates Profiles For the February, 2000 Election

Please pick the candidate of your choice

(The newspaper thanks each candidate for submitting their profiles for the Potawatomi readers to consider)

Gaming Commission Candidate Calvin Evans

I have been a resident of the reservation for 30 plus years. During that time, I have seen a lot of positive change come from our gaming ventures and I'm glad I was there when we lobbied for the signing of the Tribal-State Compact.

I was elected to the Gaming Commission in February of 1994. I know the laws governing the operation of a casino as well as the rules and regulations of licensing and background checks. During my years on the Commission I've tried my hardest to be fair in all my encounters with the public and other political bodies. I've spent many hours reviewing licensees which is an important part of our daily business. Another thing I've done is to try and use common sense on everything I've done on the Commission. Regulation is vital in gaming. We have many political forces who say we have none, but that is not true. I have taken this job seriously. Regulation is needed and an important part of our operations.



Calvin Evans

We have to ensure that we keep everything in order and to comply with existing law. It is a time-consuming business and I've given many hours toward that end.

I also try to help the reservation community by serving on a couple of committees. I served on the Head Start Policy Commission for two years. I also worked with the Tribal Council with the distribution of the Special Assistance Checks in 1997. The first per capita checks.

I currently serve on the Building Committee Program. This committee has done a good job by planning and developing plans for new buildings (Government Center, Senior Citizen Building, etc), and road improvements. I'm willing to help out with anything to benefit the tribe. Please feel free to call me at 785/966-2255, extension 4057.

I would appreciate your vote in February.

Gaming Commission Candidate Ruth A. Vega

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND COMMITMENT

Bozho! My name is Ruth Vega, I am the daughter of Ralph and Phyllis Nozhackum Vega, granddaughter of Charles and Annie Nozhackum.



Ruth A. Vega

What do I have to bring to the Gaming Commission? I have education, experience and commitment. I also have an understanding of the federal and state systems. I am committed to support the tribal stance on the compact and the agreements with the state and to ensure that the Prairie Band's interests are protected.

My education includes an Associate of Arts Degree from Haskell Indian Jr. College (1990) and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Washburn University (1997). My education has a strong emphasis in law, which I will use in understanding the contracts and codes the gaming commission deals with.

My experience includes working for Title IX-Indian Education in Topeka for three years, over two years working for the State of Kansas, and for several years with various attorneys. Currently, I am working with the tribe as the Community Services Coordinator. It is a great honor to be able to use my education and experience to help our people.

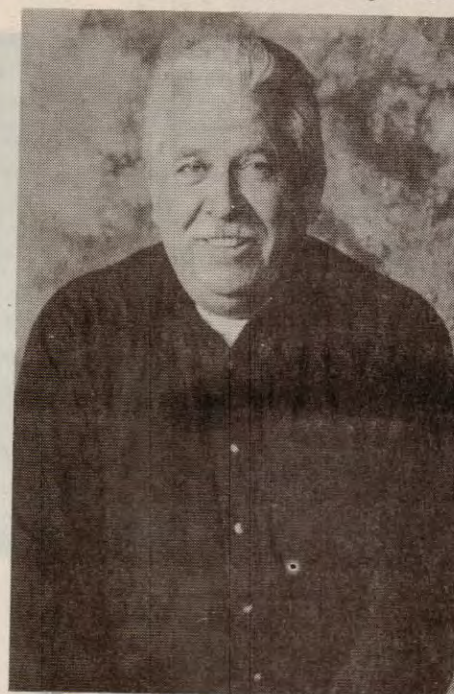
I promise to continue showing our people commitment. I intend on stressing accountability, unity and integrity in how our Gaming Commission and Indian Gaming is to progress in the future.

Email: ruthvega@email.com

Gaming Commission Candidate Marty Greemore

Hi, I'm Marty Greemore and I'm running for the position of Gaming Commissioner. I was born and raised on the Potawatomi Reservation. I am the son of Francis Greemore and Elizabeth Matchie Greemore.

I have attended both government boarding schools and public schools, Marty, South Dakota, Grand Prairie, Haskell and Mayetta. After leaving school I enlisted in the United States Marine Corp. During my tenure in the Corp, I continued my education and received my GED. I was honorably discharged from the Marines in 1960.



Marty Greemore

After leaving the Marines, I worked in the automotive field as a mechanic and in body repair for thirty five years. During that time I worked my way from employee to owner of a business. For the last three years I have worked for the casino in the surveillance department and currently hold the position of Surveillance Supervisor in charge of the swing shift (the most demanding and busiest shift in the casino). I have earned various awards during my employment at the casino. Most recently I was elected by my peers and subordinates as "Star of the Month" because of my fair employment practices.

I have learned many valuable lessons as an employee and a Marine. I have learned dependability, reliability and teamwork, all of which are qualities I will bring to the Gaming Commission if elected. Not only am I dependable and reliable but I will hold others to the same. Teamwork is what I feel is needed between all levels of government and the people in order to make our casino industry successful.

As a business owner I learned what it takes to make a business successful. I truly believe that past practices or the "Good Old Boy" system is not the way to operate a business. We have to remember that we are not in the business for today but for our children and grandchildren of tomorrow. I have learned that you have work constructively with many different personalities in order to achieve a higher goal that is beneficial to all.

In the surveillance department, I have learned the necessity of established policies and procedures. Without policies and procedures to give direction to individuals we can only hope for the right outcome and for the one that was intended. I have an in-depth knowledge of the current gaming regulations that we currently operate under. As a Surveillance Supervisor, I have the responsibility of ensuring that the casino operates under these regulations everyday in order to stay in business for the future. I am very knowledgeable in the entire operation of the casino. As a supervisor, I have the responsibility of training new employees on how the casino operates and what to watch for to protect our assets.

As an enforcer of regulations and policies I have witnessed first hand some of the decisions or policies that the current Gaming Commission has put into place and have seen the negative results. I am opposed to some of the current practices of the Gaming Commission and would like to examine them for their value and benefit. I feel that I could bring a clearer interpretation of the compact with fewer misunderstandings between the Commission and employees of the casino. I would accomplish this through improved interdepartmental communications.

I believe the Commission should be working for the people of the Potawatomi Nation. This Nation and its members are a priority for me. Please consider these changes when you cast your vote.

- Cordially, Marty Greemore

Gaming Commission Candidates/etc

Notes and Quotes from Indian Country

“Fear showed its cold face at Sand Creek, at Wounded Knee, at the Bosque Redondo, at the Bear Paw Mountains, at Fort Robinson, at Standing Rock and throughout our former paradise. Our people have had the guns of the richest and most powerful nation in the history of the earth turned upon us.” But Native Americans are at a key point in their history when they can leave a legacy of fear behind. “We are in control of our destiny. No one else can dictate our destiny if we refuse to let them.

Kevin Gover – address to the National Congress of American Indians, Oct. 6, 1999, Palm Springs, California

Indian tribes should be subject to state law, says Republican presidential candidate and Texas Gov. George W. Bush. Either ignorant or un-mindful of hundreds of years of treaties, the U.S. Constitution and several Supreme Court decisions, Bush denied the sovereign status of Indian nations. “My view is that state law reigns supreme when it comes to the Indians, whether it be gambling or any other issue,” Bush said during a recent campaign swing in New York State. Tribal leaders were incredulous. “Only the federal government has the authority,” said Mark Emery, a spokesman for the Oneida Nation.

The National Indian Gaming Commission will be offering training seminars on compliance with NIGC regulations in the later part of 1999. The training is offered to assist tribes in complying with the NIGC’s Minimum Control Standards (MICS) and other regulations. All gaming tribes must be in compliance with MICS by February 4, 2000. “We have found that one of the most effective methods of achieving compliance with the law is through education and trainings,” said Montie R. Deer, Chairman of the NIGC. “These sessions provide an invaluable opportunity for the NIGC and tribes to discuss the rules and regulations of Indian gaming.”

National Indian Gaming Commission Newsletter, Fall, 1999

In response to the question: What advice would you give a non-Indian doing business in Indian Country? Business is Business. Tribal Businesses are looking to enter into good markets, best our competition, keep down expenses and make money. But tribal businesses take the challenge one step further. Since most business ventures are owned by the tribe, they are government operations. We are equally interested in meeting our responsibility to future generations and providing services demanded by our tribal members, who are shareholders both by law and by custom. Indians are sensitive to stereotypes that we are naïve, easily manipulated and easily ripped off. Come with respect and a true desire to help the tribe move into self-sufficiency and proof that you are seeking a mutually beneficial relationship. If you do this you will be well received and given a fair and respectful hearing. – Anthony Pico, Chairman, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, Alpine, CA.

Indian Gaming Business, Fall, 1999.

The VA/HUD Appropriations Bill signed into law by President Bill Clinton allocated an unprecedented \$4.2 million to the National American Indian Housing Council’s efforts to improve housing in Indian country. This more than doubled funding for the 25-year-old that represents tribal housing authorities and also provides technical assistance, training, and research for tribes. Of the more than \$620,000,000 approved for the Native American Housing Block Grants programs for FY2000, NAIHC received a total of \$4.2 million to be administered through contracts with HUD. Executive Director Christopher D. Boesen said that in addition to expanding existing programs, increased funding enables NAIHC to better serve small tribes. NAIHC is a tribally-controlled organization dedicated to improving Indian Country housing. Its technical assistance specialists travel throughout the country helping tribes to implement housing programs to best serve their members. It also works to dismantle barriers to lending in Indian Country by educating lenders and tribal leaders about making conventional mortgage loans on trust land and by establishing conventional mortgage lending partnerships.

December 8, 1999 Indian Country Today

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Chairman Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.) has introduced legislation that aims to consolidate and restore to usefulness Indian lands that have been broken into tiny parcels over the years. Over the passage of time, federal policy has caused parcels of land allotted to individual Indians to be broken into tiny parcels among their descendents – parcels so small that they have little economic value. S. 1586 would solve this problem by requiring owners of tiny parcels to explicitly pass ownership to their heirs in a will. It would also establish a fund in the Bureau of Indian Affairs to purchase the small parcels and hold them “until they are paid for out of revenues generated by the lands once they are consolidated,” Campbell said. An effort to solve the problem in the 1980s was ultimately declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. S. 1586 attempts to address the defects in earlier legislation. But not everyone was convinced Campbell’s plan would work. The Indian Land Working Group (IGWG) also has developed a solution to the fractionated ownership problem. The group especially objects to the “escheat” provisions of the legislation, which would allow federal or tribal governments to simply take over the allotments when fractional ownership drops below two percent. Their position is that the only real positive solutions must be developed at the local tribal level. Other Indian groups advocate for more alternatives. Ben Black Bear of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe said, “It is the moral and cultural view of my tribe that escheat is not appropriate under any circumstance. A member of my tribe must be paid for his interest in land no matter how small the value.”

November 19, 1999 Native American Report

Locally, the Kickapoo Tribe, on January 7, will host Susan Masten, president of the National Congress of American Indians. The tribe hopes to possibly host the NCAI winter session national meeting in the year 2003. The NCAI was founded in 1944 and stresses the need for unity and cooperation among tribal governments for the protection of their treaties and sovereign rights. Today, the organization includes 250 tribes and works to inform the public and Congress about the governmental rights of American Indians and Native Alaskans. Kickapoo Chairman, Steve Cadue said Masten’s visit and the possible convention could be a chance for the four tribes of northeast Kansas to showcase their accomplishments and begin planning for the future of American Indians in the state. Between 2,500 and 3,000 tribal leaders and representatives are expected to attend the session.

Andrea Albright, Topeka Capital Journal, December 14, 1999, 6-B

After a federal judge chided the Treasury Department for covering up the shredding of 162 boxes of records, government lawyers admit the department destroyed still more potential evidence in a lawsuit over American Indian trust funds. The destruction of a computerized check records was disclosed Dec. 7 in a letter to a court-appointed investigator overseeing documents in the case. The Associated Press obtained a copy of the letter Dec. 8.

The Treasury Department told the government investigators and reporters on Dec. 10 they have computer back-ups of the check records. On Dec. 6, U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth accused Treasury Department lawyers of lying to him about trust fund records. The judge released a report by the investigator saying government lawyers kept quiet about the document shredding for more than three months. “It’s just weird that a few days after the report, there’s another revelation they destroyed additional information,” said Keith Harper, a lawyer for Indians suing the government, claiming multibillion-dollar mismanagement of their trust accounts.

Justice Department lawyer Brian Ferrel told the investigator, Alan Balaran, in the letter that a Treasury Department officials “recently discovered” the deletion of computer files. In June 1998, Ferrell wrote, Treasury workers deleted information older than seven years from the department’s check payment and reconciliation system.

Information from that system could have helped track payments made to Indian trust account holds, Harper said.

In a letter to Ferrell, Treasury Department lawyer Walter Eccard said he didn’t discover the June 1998 data deletions until after Nov. 23. On that day, Eccard had told Ferrell that “preliminary information” indicated no such check information had been destroyed.

The Treasury Department has since halted its routine purges of old information from that computer system, Eccard wrote Ferrell.

Matt Kelley, Washington D.C. (AP), Late December 1999

Four Tribes in Kansas will host Law Conference on Reservation

Kansas attorneys and judges will have the opportunity to learn more about tribal sovereignty, tribal jurisdiction, Indian gaming and other Indian law issues on the Kickapoo Reservation.

The four tribes in Kansas will be hosting its first Kansas Tribal Bar Bench Conference on January 27, 2000 on the Kickapoo Reservation near Horton, Kansas. The conferences’ target audience are Kansas federal, state, and magistrate judges and practitioners in Kansas, including those attorneys who practice in the tribal courts.

The four tribes in Kansas have expressed a great interest in improving the Kansas legal systems knowledge of tribal sovereignty and tribal jurisdiction. “The most appropriate place to discuss these issues is in Indian Country. That is why the Committee decided to hold this year’s conference on the Kickapoo Reservation,” said Laura Soap, Kansas Tribal Bar Bench Committee member. The conference will be held in the Golden Eagle Casino Entertainment Center.

Soap explained that this is an excellent time to start a Kansas tribal bar bench organization and conference. “Members of the tribal committees and Tribal Courts systems thought this was an excellent event for the millennium to strengthen and support Tribal Court. There are four tribes in Kansas and each tribe has a district and appellate court. The Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas was

the first tribe to establish a tribal court system on February 6, 1990. Tribal Courts are a vital part of the legal community and have much to contribute to the State of Kansas legal community.”

Attorneys and Kansas tribal judges will be speaking on tribal sovereignty, tribal jurisdiction, Indian gaming and the Indian Child Welfare Act at the day long seminar.

For instance, Montie Deer, who was appointed by President Clinton within the past year as Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission, will speak on Indian Gaming. Mr. Deer has spent many years in Kansas working with Kansas tribes in various capacities including as an Assistant United States Attorney for the State of Kansas. Mr. Deer is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Oklahoma.

Other speakers include Hon. Greg Bigler, a tribal judge and tribal justice for the Prairie Band of Potawatomi and the Kickapoo Tribe, respectively, Lance Burr, former Attorney General for the Kickapoo Tribe and Ralph Simon, Jr., current Attorney General for the Kickapoo Tribe. Hon. Greg Bigler argued and won a tax case, Oklahoma Tax Commission v. Sac and Fox Nation, before the United States Supreme Court in 1993. Mr. Bigler is a member of the Euchee Tribe of Oklahoma.

Ralph Simon, Jr., Kickapoo Attorney General

said, “Tribal law practitioners look forward to presenting information that will help improve the legal community’s awareness of tribal jurisdiction issues and tribal court systems. Indian law is a specialized area of the law having a great impact upon the cultural, social, and economic well being of tribal government and communities and those who come in contact with them. Significant issues are being decided on a daily basis in Indian Country by tribal, state, and federal court systems, sometimes radically changing legal doctrines that have existed since adoption of the United States Constitution.”

Simon explained that tribal court system are generally modeled after state and federal court systems, but unique issues can arise as the tribal customs and traditions, known as Tribal Common Law, remain in full force and effect, except as modified by the Tribal Constitutions, statutory laws, and judicial decisions.

The primary goals of the Kansas Tribal Bar Bench Conference are to promote and strengthen tribal courts and to promote relations among legal professionals in the Kansas State Bar and Kansas Tribal Bar Associations.

Other goals of the Tribal Bar Bench conference organizers are to strengthen tribal bar membership, promote education on important legal issues in Indian Country, including issues in Kansas, and education on Kansas Tribal histories and cultures.

Counting Native America

Every ten years the Census Bureau assumes the enormous task of counting everyone in America. Their count determines congressional representation based on population density, and also results in the distribution of the nation’s annual budget of nearly 200 billion dollars. These federal funds are used to provide social services, improve health care, housing, education, police departments, fire departments, and many other important services.

In 1990, the Native American count showed 38 percent increase from 1980. Still, at least 12.2 percent of Native Americans living on reservations nationwide were not counted. According to the 1990 numbers, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe was reported to have only 361 members residing in the state of Kansas—an obvious undercount. Because the population of every individual tribe determined the amount of federal funds allocated to benefit each one, this meant federal assistance went to other communities or services that may have demonstrated a greater need.

The Census Bureau distributes either a short form or a long form to each household. With the overall population of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Reservation consisting of less than 2,500 people, approximately every other household will receive a long form. The long form contains almost fifty more questions than the short form. However, your answers to each and every question will help your community plan for education, recreation, roads, hospitals and much more.

Many Native Americans are reluctant to fill out the lengthy census forms due to a historical mistrust in the Government. This fear is surely unfounded where the census is concerned. Federal law prohibits access of your individual census records to anyone outside of the Census Bureau. Each employee of the Census Bureau must pass security and employment reference checks, sworn to secrecy and will be prosecuted, fined and delivered a prison sentence for breach of this important mandate. The FBI, IRS, courts, police, military, immigration, welfare agencies, credit companies, and even the President of the United States are all denied access to your individual census records. Absolutely no one outside of the Census Bureau can have your personal information. The only information that is released to the government from each Census effort is in the form of statistical data-numbers and percentages.

The Prairie Band of Potawatomi Tribe adamantly supports the Census 2000 effort, and is encouraging all Prairie Band members to participate. The tribe would also like to remind all Native Americans to fill in their tribe’s complete name on the census form. For example, specify that you are Prairie Band Potawatomi, as opposed to just Potawatomi. The following is an example of how to fill in Prairie Band Potawatomi on both the long and short form.

On the short form, see question 8. “What is Person 1’s race?” On the long form it is under question 6. Mark X in American Indian section. Immediately following are blocks that state, “Print name of enrolled or principal tribe.” This is where you enter PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI.”

Submitted by Vestina Nonken

Gaming Commission Candidate Doris Potts

I’d like to open this article by tell you who I am. I am Ma-Dos from the fish/water clan. My given name is Doris Ann Potts. I am a full-blood Indian, and an enrolled tribal member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation. I am a Drum Member at both the Potawatomi and Kickapoo Nation Reservations. I lived on the Kickapoo Reservation until I was thirteen and then moved to the Potawatomi Reservation where I have lived ever since.

I have recently attained a 27-year old dream of mine – completion of a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Resources, Organizational Management and Leadership. I am an advocate of going after the positives in your life, whatever they may be. This is one of the reasons I am seeking this elected position of Gaming Commissioner for the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation.

I have worked for my People my whole life. Back in the days before we had a casino, I worked in various clerical jobs in the tribal office. I come from a very poor background so I understand what is like to have to live without material luxuries. I feel that I have paid many of my dues. For those of us that been here through it all, we refer to those struggling days a time when the Tribe had nothing but a few government grants and deplorable roads that shook your cars to pieces.

Currently, I am a member of the Constitution Committee. Also, in order to help serve our youth, I am working on opening a Boys & Girls Club of America here on our reservation. Many of you know me as a voice at the other end of the tribal office phone line. During the last year, I was the Per Capita Clerk, troubleshooting problems in that department.

My intentions are to learn as much as I possibly can about the Gaming Commissioner’s responsibilities prior to the ballot-counting day. I am a firm believer in Indian rights and following our old ways. I want to stay employed for my People and be nearby where can impact positive changes and foster unity among our people. We can begin to heal and grow successfully by attempting to support and understand each other. Thank you For taking the time to read these words.

Improving Organizational Effectiveness Workshop

By Gary E. Mitchell

Julie Johnson, an enrolled Lummi Indian, recently held a workshop on the Potawatomi Reservation, providing a wealth of information to tribal employees on how to improve organizational effectiveness.

For example, in one of the informational handouts entitled "10 signs that you are a true leader," the following question was asked, "What are the common denominators of true leaders besides the obvious trait of vision?"

"Leaders can be found at all levels of tribal government services," maintains Johnson, "not just at the top, and the best leaders share a certain set of values: *fairness, equity, justice, integrity, honesty and trust.*"

Her criteria for leadership material or ten signs that you are a true leader:

- 1) You look for ways to improve yourself through reading, asking questions, or getting additional training. 'Most people have a tendency to rest on yesterday's learning, rather than to get into the spirit of continuous improvement,' stated Stephen R. Covey author of Principle-Centered Leadership.
- 2) You are service oriented — no matter what you do for a living. In other words, you ask yourself what other people need, not just what you need. You ask, what does the tribe need? Not, what does my program need?
- 3) You radiate positive energy and "sidestep negative energy" as an employee or supervisor. (Example) You don't write negative little notes to staff first. Talk with them; always try and resolve a problem verbally before you document your concerns. Remember, we (Indians) always test high in listening, hearing, and remembering.
- 4) You don't gossip. This is a tough one, but you have to stop the negative.
- 5) You believe in other people. You affirm, see the worth, goodness, and potential in others. "God does not create people better than others, but he does give us each special gifts. What are yours?"
- 6) You work on balancing your life between work, home, your reservation, and your community.
- 7) Support your reservation like you support the football and basketball team. Do you have

the team spirit?

8) You see your life as an adventure, are inwardly secure, and look at each day in a fresh new way.

9) You value differences. You realize that your way is not always the right way and see alternatives as exciting-not threatening.

10) You take care of yourself physically through exercise so that you're healthy. Intellectual improvements are made by reading and listening to wise tribal leaders. (Turn off the tv.) Spiritually, you strengthen yourself through prayer or simply meditating on the inspirational. And, appreciate all that you have!

The forty (or more) participants participating in the Johnson workshop also identified why it is important for the Potawatomi community to plan:

- Education of community
- Long-range planning
- Professional budget
- Blueprint for direction
- Stay on track to reach a common goal
- Work together for a common goal
- Identify common goals
- Prioritize objectives
- Identify resources
- Identify benefits to the people
- Clear understanding (simple) language
- Community involvement (everyone)
- Future direction
- Identify strengths and weaknesses—and improve
- Reflect on direction
- Open mind on all ideas
- Follow lines of authority
- Learn from past mistakes
- Network
- Setting policy for all, agreement to fulfill.

The working group decided on the following **MISSION STATEMENT for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation:**

As a sovereign Nation, we shall ensure self-sufficiency that respects diversity and equality, while working within a spirit of cooperation and fairness for a high standard of living and quality of life.

As a sovereign Nation, we shall strive to provide an environment of improved well-being for our people including education, health, safety, and welfare, while valuing our culture, traditions and all resources.

As a sovereign Nation, we shall accomplish this for all generations with a system of value-based management to include all views.

The group decided to adopt the following **VALUE STATEMENT:**

We the Prairie Band Potawatomi people known as the "Keepers of the Fire" shall:

1. *Maintain, protect and nurture our culture, spiritual, and historic values through the celebration of its unique traditions, language and sovereignty.*
2. *Promote education as the cornerstone of our values.*
3. *Show pride and support the endeavors of our youth.*
4. *Acknowledge, respect and value the wisdom of our tribal elders with guidance for our future generations.*
5. *Honor, respect, and strive for justice by treating all with equality and fairness.*
6. *Protect and maintain tribal lands and other natural resources.*
7. *Promote, enhance and sustain the health, safety and quality of life for all.*

The group hopes to develop a mechanism to improve the collection and dissemination of tribal information. This resource guide will be available to all tribal members through hard copy and internet access.

In the near future, the group will conduct a needs assessment to identify the health, education, and welfare needs of the Potawatomi people. Additionally, a goal is to create a cultural, research, museum and educational center to ensure the social and economic goals of tribal members are being met through education.

Julie Johnson's workshop created a blueprint for development of a worthy goal for the Potawatomi tribe, a much-needed improvement in all phases of the tribal infrastructure.



Photo by: Gary E. Mitchell

Walter Cooper
At the 1999 Potawatomi Xmas Party

Community Services Program

The Community Services Program (CSP) has been placed under the Social Services Department. Ruth Vega, Prairie Band Potawatomi, was hired in October to coordinate the program. Steve Ortiz continues to act as the liaison between the CSP Program and the Tribal Council. All requests are brought before and reviewed by the Community Services Committee, who diligently meet every first and third Tuesday of the month.

The CSP provides assistance to Prairie Band Potawatomi members on and off the reservation, who are in human need. One thing that the CSP has been stressing is the assistance of our elders. Ruth has been helping to provide those needs to elders. If you are interested in receiving an application along with the guidelines/categories, you may write to the Community Services Program; 15434 K Road; Mayetta, KS 66509 or call 966-2932 or toll-free at (888) 966-2932.

"Let Your Fingers Do the Searching: Looking for Scholarship Dollars on the Internet"

By Veronica N. Zerrer

It may be just after the holidays, snow may still be on the ground, and high school graduation, or the beginning of college next fall, can seem a long time away. So why should you begin looking now for scholarship money to fund your education? The truth is if you don't start now you may be missing out on reducing your out of pocket college expenses.

Many homes in the United States are now wired with at least one computer with access to the Internet. And if you don't have a computer most, if not all, libraries have access to the internet that they make available to their patrons for free or for a nominal charge. So read on please!

To make the most out of searching for grant dollars access your favorite search engine and type in "College and Scholarships". Or you may go straight to two web sites that will start you on your search for scholarship dollars. Specific sites I have found are www.findit.org and www.fastweb.com. It only takes a few minutes to register with *fastweb*. The service is free and usually will cite all scholarships that you qualify for. In *fastweb*'s case the searcher types in his or her basic information such as name, address, grade point average, and SAT and ACT scores. It also will ask you for information about yourself, your hobbies, sports played in High School, ethnicity, heritage, veteran status. Take a personal inventory of yourself and your family background. Did your parents serve in the military? Where did they work? What careers did they pursue? What are your career plans? When you answer these and other questions you provide a profile to the computer data base. The computer then does in under five minutes what it takes five hours to do by hand: Compile a listing of potential scholarships.

Ask for the scholarships application packet. These are most often free of charge. You can fill them out on weekends and in the evenings. Many high schools also provide guidance counselors that can lead you through the seeming maze of questions and requirements. The trick is do not get discouraged and throw the application away. Applications may look daunting and intimidating on purpose — in an effort to discourage those scholarship seekers with less patience and confidence in themselves. Don't forget that it is perfectly acceptable to apply for as many scholarships as you can. There are many more scholarships available at the level of \$500 than there are at the level of \$5,000. So have fun conducting your search. You'll be glad you tried.

Paumanauke Native American Indian Scholarship

Deadline to apply: May 1, 2000
Value per award: \$500-\$750
Number of awards: 6
Majors: All areas
"Open to tribally enrolled Native Americans attending colleges, Universities and accredited post-Secondary institutions on a full Time basis."

Contact: Paumanauke Pow-Wow & Native American Livings Arts Festival, Inc. Native American Indian Scholarship
333 Lagoon Drive South
Copiague, N.Y. 11726-5408
Apply on-line

Adolph Van Pelt Scholarship Inc.

Deadline to apply: August 15, 2000
Value per award: \$500-\$800
Number of awards: unspecified
Majors: All areas

"Open to American Indian or Alaskan Native undergraduates. Based on financial Need and merit. Must have tribal affiliation and proof of enrollment and be at least 25% Native American or Alaskan. Recipients are eligible to re-apply in subsequent years."

Contact: Association on American Indian Affairs, Inc.
PO Box 268
Sisseton, SD 57262-0268

SEND LETTER TO ABOVE ADDRESS

ROAD PROGRAM REPORT

Submitted by Sandra Mitchell, Administrative Assistant

The PBPB Roads Department would like to give one more report to the General Council via the tribal newsletter. We are "out with the old and in with the new millennium," and the threat of Y2K looming over our heads. We have accomplished a lot in the last year. It's all good. Here are some of the statistics:

- Our road system totals 117 miles.
- 73.6 miles are BIA routes.
- The balance is dirt roads which provide access to tribal/allotment lands and tribal roads.
- 29 BIA bridges
- Sand and Salt Dome facility built
- 100% completion of 158 Road Project
- Several tubes were installed.
- Hauled 23,000 yards for fill dirt at the new Government Center
- Cleaned several lagoons
- Laid tons of gravel & graded miles of roads
- Backfilled bridge projects
- Built miles of fence
- Harvested buffalo
- Laid new cement in shop
- Upgraded tool storage facility
- Expanded mechanic's work area
- Repaired & maintained signage
- Clearing and grubbing of bridges & excavation
- Capped old, abandoned wells

We have come a long way in bringing our roads up to all-weather status. We have replaced most of our sub-standard bridges with BIA bridges. We were very fortunate to have received an ISTE A IRR (Indian Reservation Roads) Project which completed eight miles of blacktop.

For years, Roads Director, Tim Ramirez, would go to the National Indian Roads meetings and say, "The only blacktop on our reservation is the magic marker on the map."

Tim is presently one of the Anadarko Area Representatives on the IRR Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. He is working for a fair and equitable Fund Formula Distribution for the \$275 million dollars to be disbursed between 556 federally-recognized tribes.

One of the major projects we are working on now is right-of-way. In the days of "horse and buggy," a 33 foot right-of-way was okay, but is no longer acceptable. With Indian children riding daily on school buses, elders running errands, overall safety of the general public, maintaining proper drainage along with the rise of economic development, we need the standard right-of-way widths of 60 feet.

Safety is the number one priority in Indian Country roads. We will continue to preserve and care for our roads through maintenance funding, IRR Projects, and Self-Determination.

Some of our FY 2000 planned projects are:

- 2 Tribal Funded/Capital Improvement bridges
- 2 BIA bridges
- Dirt work for Housing Cluster #4
- Planning projects with the Tribal Council to improve our infrastructure on the Reservation
- Recreation/bicycle trail

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Constitutional Committee Report

The Constitutional Committee has met several times since it's inception at the October General Council meeting. We, as a Committee, have been charged with reviewing and commenting on the Constitutional amendments and reporting the findings to the General Council. There are eleven amendments that the Tribal Council forwarded to the B.I.A for approval thereby following constitutional procedure. What follows are the committee's comments on the various amendments.

The committee's next meeting will be on January 8, 2000, at the government center. The committee encourages all concerned tribal members to attend the meeting and take part in forming the vision of our future.

- 1) Amendment A: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.
- 2) Amendment B: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.
- 3) Amendment C: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.
- 4) Amendment D: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.
- 5) Amendment E: We, the Constitutional Committee, find that this amendment would create a situation of population instability and a downward spiral in tribal members, resulting in the extinction of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.
- 6) Amendment F: We, the Constitutional Committee, do not recommend this amendment. Stripping the General Council of future powers would deny the Tribal Council valuable advisors in steering this Nation to greatness.
- 7) Amendment G: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.
- 8) Amendment H: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.
- 9) Amendment I: We, the Constitutional Committee, disagree with this amendment. The General Council, at a previous meeting, voiced the need for four annual meetings. This amendment should reflect the decision of the General Council.
- 10) Amendment J: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.
- 11) Amendment K: We, the Constitutional Committee, find no fault with this amendment.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Social Services

The Social Services Department has grown in size. The addition of staff and an increase in caseload have contributed to the growth. Eric Sanderson (Director) and Yolanda Riddle (Social Worker), continue to give support to individuals and families who seek help through the Social Services Department.

The addition of three staff has added new faces to the Social Services Department. In October, the Community Service Program was placed in the Social Service Department and a full-time Coordinator was hired. Ruth Vega, Prairie Band Potawatomi, was hired into the position. She has been busy since she began. In November, Myra Matchie, Prairie Band Potawatomi, was hired as Secretary. She is the support behind our staff. In December, Jackie Kern, Prairie Band Potawatomi, was hired as the Family Support Worker. She will work closely with the Social Worker and the families.

As our staff grows, we all have contributed a voice to the development of the programs. Part of the development includes the expansion of the Foster Care Program. January will start the kickoff of our Foster Home Recruitment Drive. We are actively looking for potential individuals and families who are interested in becoming foster parents. Another part of this expansion includes adoptive families in various tribal/state courts throughout the country. We would like to expand the foster/adoptive families programs to enable the tribe to exercise its rights under the Indian Child Welfare Act. We need Indian families. If you are interested or know of any families who are please call our office.

The Social Services Department is also in the planning stages of developing a Family Violence Prevention program. If you are interested in being a community member involved in the planning of this program, please contact our office. We are interested in community involvement.

If you are interested in being involved or have any questions, please contact our office at 966-2932 or toll-free (888) 966-2932.



"Big Man" and Arlene Wahwassuck

By Doris Potts

The year 2000 is going to be a voting year for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation tribal members, setting the pace of our nation's future. This is a big election year with two (2) positions to be filled on Gaming Commission in February, four (4) positions to be filled on the Tribal Council in July, and a vote on the proposed constitutional amendments in the near future. Also, the United States Presidential election should be considered very important. As a concerned tribal member, you can vote for the candidate whom best represents the interests of our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation as a unit.

This tribal newspaper, a tool to convey very important messages to tribal members, represents one of our first constitutional rights. That is freedom of speech. In past General Council meetings, we have formed many committees. Those committees have all begun gung ho or highly energized. But somewhere along the line, they became frustrated and simply gave up. So the discontent continued and tribal members allow concerns to be pushed aside, again. We then return to General Council meetings and reiterate the same old concerns.

We aren't following through on our concerns and this is allowing our elected leaders the free reigns to continue to make us unhappy with their decisions. At General Council meetings, we are saying that our elected leaders aren't respecting our General Council voices. **By not following through with our committees' actions, we, ourselves, are allowing that to happen.**

An example will be cited that strongly supports this action. In the last General Council meeting, a Constitution Committee was formed as a result of a General Council motion made from the floor. A motion was made by Carol Wahwasuck "to form a committee at this time, a seven member constitution commission that will be a standing commission that will meet to study the Constitution and it's By-laws and to study the proposed amendments, and this commission will set the hearing date, provide this information to the General Council." Nominations of tribal members were

made from the floor for Constitution Committee members to serve. All seven accepted their nominations. See Committee Listing for names of those members.

The people on the Constitution Committee immediately recognized that the committee itself was formed because tribal members are unhappy with the way our tribal governmental system is currently being administered. The other committees were also formed because of that discontent. Simply stated, tribal members are now standing up for improvements on how our business matters are being handled and are willing to guarantee that our General Council's motions are acted upon.

The Constitution Committee's first action was a request to the Tribal Council for hiring a legal consultant to assure that we would be continuously staying within our legal boundaries, yet maximally flexing our sovereign muscles to the Nation's benefit. That was done back on November 15th. On three occasions, two constitution committee members sat in Tribal Council meetings all day and part of a day, patiently awaiting a constructive action be taken by the Tribal Council. It has always been our desire to present our requests in a most positive and professional manner. On all three occasions, the request was tabled. To date, the Tribal Council has not acted on that request.

Refer to Tribal Chair Mamie Rupnicki's Report in this newspaper. She eloquently and elaborately advocates sovereignty. Who is supporting or not supporting whom here? **Continuously tabling issues is not addressing issues: it is a delaying tactic.** The Constitution Committee has, literally, been begging for approval for hiring this legal consultant to address this sovereignty issue because there are serious legal ramifications involved when you discuss Indian law and sovereignty. Well-educated tribal members serve on the Constitution Committee, but no lawyers. The Constitution Committee chooses to do this job, as charged by the General Council, as proficiently as possible. That means having legal counsel to address the serious sovereign issues.

The Constitution Committees continue to meet, discussing major constitution issues impacting our tribe such as sovereignty, enrollment requirements, jurisdiction, land issues, and a disrespect of the General Council's motions. The motions that are being passed by the General Council are not followed through and accomplished by the Tribal Council. This is a disrespect of the people's voices. Flyers, notifying tribal members of these meetings, have been posted and sent to all tribal program departments, ensuring that we are reaching as many tribal members that we possibly can. However, tribal member participation has been very weak with only 2-4 tribal members attending. And, once again, we will be returning to the General Council meetings with only gripes, not really moving ahead as we should be doing.

In October's General Council meeting, the General Council mandated a requirement of four (4) quarterly General Council meetings, rather than the one (1) annual General Council meeting. Are these going to turn into four (4) costly gripe sessions with no follow-through by the General Council, allowing the Tribal Council to do whatever they choose?

At General Council meetings, we are hearing issues that shouldn't even be brought before us. Those issues are personnel issues (*Tribal Council member exhibiting favoritism or nepotism*), discontent with incomplete budget reports given to the members (*not thorough enough, plus not paying attention to mandates to pay off costly notes with interest rates that exceeds interest being drawn from certificate of deposit*) land issues (*partiality and favoritism to Tribal Council member's families*). Those are cited only because they are recent issues addressed before the General Council assembly. Tribal members have no place to take these complaints so they bring the issues before the General Council.

Maybe, our tribe's organizational structure should be designed so that personnel matters aren't being brought before the General Council. Tribal members should not be expected to work under the fear of losing their jobs if they voice their discontent about illegal activity occurring in their

work place. Yet, having been at recent Tribal Council meetings, retaliation by Tribal Council members, is alive and well. It is my understanding, as voiced by a Tribal Council member, that more professionalism is practiced when tribal members are present in the meetings. But, who has the leisure time that is required to do this?

Elected tribal leaders are voted in to conduct themselves in an unbiased and professional manner. The duties and responsibilities are outlined in the Tribal Council Policy and Procedures. Every Tribal Council member takes an oath of office to uphold those policies and procedures and is bound by them in their every action. If they are not upholding their elected-office requirements, the recourse for that is defined in our tribe's constitution. RECALL should not have to be exercised if a tribal government system is operating effectively for the People it was designed to protect and preserve.

In closing this article, you have the power in your hand. Study the issues and strive for improving our tribe's government with your vote. Talk to the candidates, the current Gaming Commissioners, and the current Tribal Council members. Don't be afraid to air any/all displeasures, rumors, etc. It is quite easy to say, "Hey, I heard this or that, blah, blah, blah-etc. Is that true? Give me the facts." Confront the issue in a good-natured manner, as our elected leaders are in office to represent openness and integrity.

Voting in the year 2000 will include a vote for the tribe's proposed amendments, Gaming Commissioner election, and Tribal Council election. A big vote that should not be overlooked is the November vote for the next U. S. President. That President can have a major impact on Indian policies such as Indian gaming (gaming includes expenditures such as tribal member per capita payments, economic development on our reservation, land purchases, tribal employee wages/salaries, etc.) These elections are all happening in the year 2000. Be proactive, pushing for your rights as a proud tribal member and Native American. Ho. Mi-gwetch.

PRAIRIE BAND GIFT SHOP NEWS

On January 12, 2000 we will be entering our 3rd year of business here at the gift shop. We are looking forward to this year and are hoping that it will be our best year ever. We have recently learned that we will be acquiring more retail and office space for our shop. This is very good news because we can now offer more choices in gift items and apparel.

As always we try to provide guests of the casino, as well as our Indian community with what they want and need. We work closely with Harrah's and the Tribal Finance Department to make the gift shop a successful operation that we all can be proud of.

We would like to take this time to thank all of our tribal members from near and far for their continued support and patronage, and we encourage you to support all tribal enterprises. If you haven't been in for awhile, come on over and check us out! You are always welcome in your gift shop.

Happy New Year! From all of us at the Prairie Band Gift Shop.

Karen Thomas
Cindy LeClere
Joy Yoshida
Gina Wahweotten
Naomi Masquat
Brenda McClure
David Frisby
Laura Abeyta
Dave Cadue

Wisconsin Charter Proposal

The Wisconsin tribal members are requesting a budget of \$59,098.00 (start up) for the Branch Office of the Prairie Band Potawatomi to be located in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. This is a centrally located region for the branch office and historically was an early home of our Tribal elders. The branch office will:

- Promote communication between Tribal members and with the Tribal government. The office will have Internet email and a toll free number to call for assistance.
- Improve service delivery to Tribal members who live off the reservation.
- Carry out the provisions provided in the Prairie Band Potawatomi Constitution and Bylaws and the Wisconsin Prairie Band Potawatomi Charter.
- Advise the parent body of Tribal membership needs.
- Close the geographic gap between the Tribal Government and the Tribal membership in the Midwest (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin)
- Strengthen the Tribe as a whole by providing a means of increased communication.

There will be an office manager position for the Branch Office. The office manager will be an employee of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and will be responsible for the day to day operations of the office. The manager's main responsibility will be to assist Tribal members with the services that are provided by the Tribe Government.

We are asking for your support at the General Council meeting on January 16, 2000, to approve the Wisconsin Charter, Branch office and the branch office budget. The Tribal members in Wisconsin are hoping that this regional concept will help increase the communication and services to those who do not reside on the reservation and at the same time provide strength to the entire Nation by connecting Tribal members to the reservation (our federal land base). This strength will benefit us as a Nation as we go into the next century. If you have any questions or would like to have more information, please call Fred Camacho, 715-421-1479, or Fred Pigeon, 715-423-2736, or Yvette Lokotz, at 608-635-8719.

The primary purposes of the Charter are as follows:

- To provide an organized means of representing the needs of the Prairie Band Tribal members whom reside in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. This regional organization will strengthen the voice of the General Council.
- To carry out the provisions of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Constitution and Bylaws. The Charter mirrors the Constitution for consistency.
- To maintain Potawatomi traditions and customs. We need to develop an educational component that will reach Tribal members off reservation, such as Potawatomi language classes.
- The Charter provides for the election of a chairperson and the appointment of a Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. These individuals will be our official connection to the Tribal Government.

Letters, Faxes, E-Mail

Enrollment Concerns

I am writing to express my concern about the current proposal to amend the Tribal Constitution. I understand that the members of the Enrollment Board are trying to see to the best interests of the current members of the PB Potawatomi Nation, and I applaud their efforts to stem the tide of opportunistic people who are looking for free money. My concern is not with what you are trying to do, but with how you are trying to do it.

Requiring new members to possess 1/4 of Potawatomi blood is like signing a death knell for the tribe. I see one of two things happening.

In the first scenario, within seven generations there will be no new tribal members. This is because there will be no children born with 1/4 degree of Potawatomi blood quantum must be at least 1/2 degree. Since I don't know any non-relatives with the requisite blood quantum, I know my children will not be 1/4 degree of Prairie Potawatomi blood.

This brings me to my second scenario.

Within these seven generations, the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation will become a nation of inbred people with all of the accompanying medical and genetic problems this presents. This is because those children who are born with the requisite 1/4 degree of *Prairie Band of Potawatomi* blood will most likely have parents who are too closely related. This is one reason why so many of our people marry outside of the tribe today.

If I were born today, despite the fact that both of my parents are tribal members I would not be eligible for enrollment under these regulations, since my degree of *Prairie Band of Potawatomi* blood is slightly less than 1/4 (although my total blood quantum is over 1/2). Since my social, familial and cultural association has always been with the Prairie Band of Potawatomi, I would not wish to be enrolled elsewhere, nor do I think I should have to be.

Since I do not like to point out problems without offering some sort of solution, I do have some suggestions to make. First of all, in order to discourage people who are suddenly "discovering" that they are Indian (possibly after denying this fact for years), the tribal constitution could require that all new tribal members have at least one parent who is currently enrolled in the tribe. The constitution could also put a limit on the age of new applicants. Since most people who have cultural ties with the tribe enroll their children shortly after birth, this should help weed out those who are thinking of per caps. An age limit of 18 would give children who may be in foster care or be living with a non-member parent the opportunity to enroll if they so choose. If this is not a concern, an age limit of 10 or 12 might be more appropriate. Taken together with the 1/4 degree *total* Indian blood requirement already in place, these two measures should reduce the number of fortune-seeking individuals applying for tribal membership without adversely affecting the well-being of the PB Potawatomi Nation itself. A clause could also be added providing for a review of the application of those who do not meet the age or parental requirements in some way, but who can demonstrate that they have significant and lasting social, cultural and

familial ties to the PB Potawatomi Nation and community.

I would like to see an issue of this magnitude of importance put to a mail-in vote of the entire adult membership. This is our children's future we are attempting to alter, and the entire PB Potawatomi Nation needs to have the opportunity to decide. A single General Council meeting is not enough time to consider the ramifications of important actions such as this. I have thought on this issue for quite some time, and I believe **everyone** should have the opportunity to consider both sides of this issue from a balanced perspective. I know that I have a difficult time attending the General Council meetings, and it is not fair to tribal members who cannot make the meetings for one reason or another to be denied the opportunity to vote on these matters. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Denise Lundin. Horton, Kansas

Tribal Member Reelected

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate my Aunt Theresa (Jessepe) Murray for her well deserved win in her bid for reelection to the Poplar City Council on the Ft. Peck Reservation, Montana. As a city council member and a 5th grade teacher, Theresa is working hard, voicing her concern, and standing up for the rights of Native Americans in Montana. What an accomplishment for a Potawatomi tribal member. We are all proud of you Aunt Theresa, keep up the good work (Theresa received 103 votes and will serve a four year term on the 4-member Poplar City Council).

Tamara (Lewis) McClammy and family

Primary Elections

Does our election process work for us? I have watched the results of elections that brought our current Tribal Council and Gaming Commission into being. I would like to voice my opinion about our election methods and the effects they have on our leadership and regulatory body.

The first issue is knowledge of our candidates and their abilities. Currently tribal that meet age and other criteria, become candidates for a \$150.00 filing fee. A background check of the candidates' legal records is done and ballots are sent out. The background check does not prove or disprove credentials or establish tribal membership. Tribal members need to decide if this information is important to the position up for election. I think we need to ensure the best person for the job gets the office. This is more important than ever with our new economic base.

The second issue that our current election methods foster is minimal support for our elected officials. Our current election system allows a candidate to be elected into office with the most votes. If there are numerous candidates for one position, the winner may be elected with only 25% of the total votes cast. This is the element that undermines support for our elected leaders. Is this fair to them, or us?

For example, in Chairperson Rupnicki's election she won among a slate of eight candidates. She was not the choice of most of the voters; she just had the most votes. This type of election will only continue to increase our division. It is my hope that run-off elections would produce more support for our elected leaders and join our community together.

The third and last issue is the idea of adding run-off elections, a "majority vote" system, to the elections that we hold for Tribal Council members. They involve a preliminary election to select the two candidates that get the most votes. Then there would be a second election between these two candidates to determine which will be our elected official.

There would be no need for a run-off election if only two candidates ran for the office. I think the "majority vote" system we currently practice, one election no matter how many candidates apply, is satisfactory for Gaming Commission elections since they are regulatory body. The cost of a run-off election, and it is a consideration, is a small portion of what we pay a tribal council member. Our tribe, with its new enterprise and revenue, faces challenges it never has before. Our leaders should feel confident in knowing they have the support of tribal membership. Run-off elections would help to promote this.

I am submitting this letter because of my regard for the Nation and the members therein. I am open to the views of other tribal members as well. If you have nowhere else to go, feel free to share your views and ideas with the Constitution Committee chaired by Venita Chenuault. Our meeting times, dates and locations are posted on the tribal website. The meetings are open to members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Respectfully,
Angela C. Wahweonten

Letter of Appreciation

This letter is to let you know that I, for one, appreciate many things that the Potawatomi are doing on the reservation. These items include road and bridge improvements, trash and debris control, animal control, development of employment opportunities, etc.

It is my belief that by increasing employment and self sustaining opportunities for people you also increase the level of pride in oneself. Speaking of pride, I think the Potawatomi have an exceptional opportunity to further develop personal pride in themselves and their reservation and the various endeavors they undertake. Although, I am not a supporter of the gaming business, I do fully realize the opportunities that it has provided for the Potawatomi. And as much, it has been a blessing to the Potawatomi people.

And from what I can see the Potawatomi are well on the way to making most of many of these opportunities. It is my sincere hope that these opportunities will result in a Potawatomi Reservation that all of us can be very proud of, Native and non-Native Americans alike. Delbert L. Boling, Hoyt, Kansas

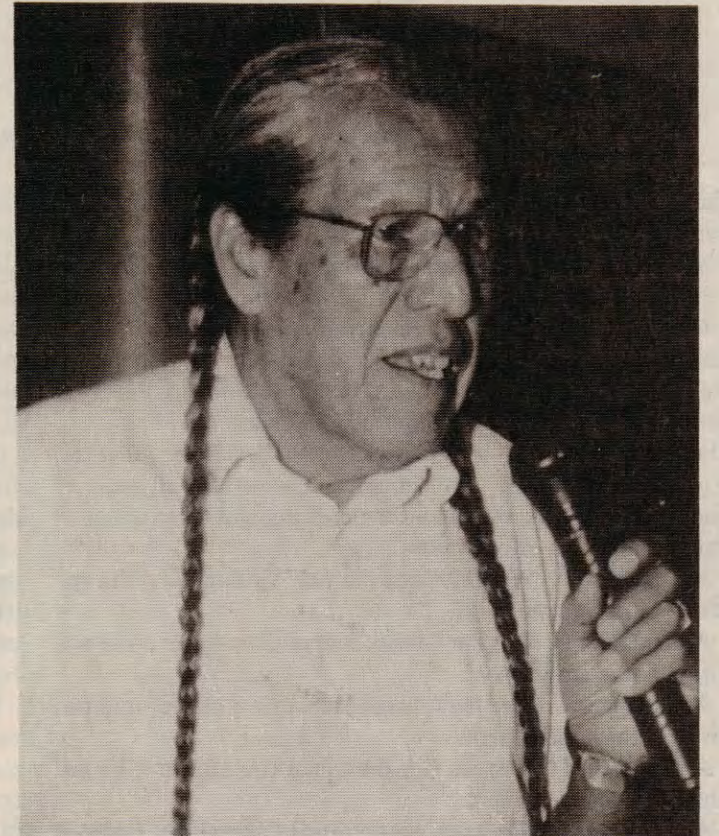


Photo by: Gary E. Mitchell

Jim McKinney Potawatomi Elder and Language Teacher

Jim McKinney, a Prairie Band of Potawatomi lives in Holton, Kansas. Jim retired from his ministry in the United Methodist Church in June of 1997. Since then he has devoted himself to revitalizing the Potawatomi language. He teaches a language class in the Royal Valley School system and is active in local pow-wows. Some of his work can be viewed on Smokey McKinney's website. This website can be accessed through the tribal website at pbpindiantribe@aol.com.

Native Americans aren't the one who Should change

By Justin P. Orr

This commentary is in response to Robert Sigman's recent editorial. While holding no personal disrespect for Mr. Sigman, I do challenge virtually every view he and Emerson Lynn, Jr. of the Iola Register promoted in the column.

The centerpiece issue of his column appears to be the non-remittance of tobacco tax revenues by tribes to the state of Kansas. The issue is a red herring. We cannot believe that underderived revenues from cigarette sales on four remotely located reservations is sufficiently serious to argue for dismantling the entire national Indian reservation system.

What is impressive are results from a recent "impact study" by GVA Marquette Advisers. As a result of Indian "gaming" in the state of Kansas, the following has happened: Direct employment - 1,718 jobs; indirect employment - 1,441 additional jobs; direct earnings - \$34.6 million; indirect earnings - \$35.9 million; purchases from Kansas companies - \$26.7 million; marketing to attract out-of-state visitors - \$2.5 million; state income tax withholding \$928,000. This makes a few lost revenue dollars seem relatively insignificant - certainly not enough to call for the whole-sale dismantling of a 300-year trust relationship.

The "Indian world" has changed a great deal in recent times and, frankly, were distressed with Sigman's rather parochial and uniformed view of Native American life in a modern context. About 32 percent of tribes have seized "gaming" as an opportunity to provide an economic base for their tribes or nation. Most view this as an extraordinary opportunity to move toward diversified business that will allow tribes a sound and long-lasting endowment base for the tribes' long-range financial future.

As a people who have been on this land for more than 12,000 years, we have learned to adjust and to accept. The European encroachment was based on a conquering mentality. Throughout history our leaders made decisions with an eye for their impact seven generations hence. In today's mainstream culture, decisions are made with impact measured in terms of seven days, seven weeks or seven months.

The principal difference between our cultures is the relative position of economic drive. We are not driven by money. We are a spirit-based people. Our activities today are based with an understanding that, while money is a means to an end, actions for our people, families and communities must be spiritual in nature and placed in context. In the words of Chief Seattle, "All things are related." This includes an abiding respect for our land, environment and all living things. This is the antithesis of "savage."

In the European view, treaties were based on the land, not the people. In the Indian world, treaties were promises made to the people - the land was the bargaining chip.

Sigman's column recommends that Native Americans become part to the great homogenized society. It urges us to become willing and ready to surrender - one more time - the things that made us who we are.

We would suggest that our country, of which we are now an intrinsic part, could benefit from a deeper examination and adoption of a value system that honors family, praises God on a daily basis, protects our fragile environment, and offers hope for survival and life, regardless of what may challenge our existence.

Sigman concludes that "it is time for that (resistance to mainstreaming) to change." We would respectfully suggest that is not who should change. We, I believe, accept an invitation to help move our value system into mainstream society. In doing so, we may have another chance to instill honor, respect and tolerance within our lives.

Justin P. Orr, executive director of the Heart of America Indian Center, is from the Snohomish/Cowlitz tribes of Washington state. Orr served in numerous positions with the federal government for 25 years, including regional director of the Office for Native Americans in the Department of Health and Human Services.

An end to reservations

By Robert P. Sigman

One of my most admired journalists in Kansas is Emerson Lynn Jr., of the Iola Register. He writes with clarity and purpose. His foresight and insight into complex issues keep him well ahead of the editorial writing pack. His integrity is impeccable.

I was reminded of his professional stature after I read his recent piece on the American Indian. His immediate concern was about the revenue Kansas loses because Indians do not remit the proper taxes to the state on tobacco products they sell. Kansas cannot require the Indians to pass along the revenue, Lynn observed, because the courts have ruled the tribes are sovereign.

Some states, he noted, have negotiated agreements on a share of the income, but Kansas has not.

Then Lynn revealed his considerable talent for trail-blazing concepts:

"While such agreements are better than nothing, a better remedy would be to negotiate an end to the doctrine of Indian tribal sovereignty, abolish the Bureau of Indian Affairs, liquidate the reservations, distribute the assets held by the U.S. government for the benefit of Indians to the descendants of those whom the treaties were made in the 18th and 19th centuries and declare today's noble savages to be full-blooded Americans - and nothing more."

That appears to be impossible, but it should be done.

Lynn recognizes the European settlers mis-

treated the Indians by breaking treaties and cheating them "every way imaginable."

He concludes:

"But today's descendants of the first Americans can live anywhere in this land, pursue any career and enjoy every protection that the law provides. They are citizens in law and in fact and are limited only by their individual abilities."

"It makes no sense morally, politically or socially to continue the fiction that the tribes are 'nations' within this nation and should be exempted from a handful of the laws that apply to other Americans."

"The experiment has failed. We should junk it."

Native Americans, it should be remembered, are not the only ethnic or racial group that has been discriminated against in this country.

Virtually all of them have encountered mean-spirited bias after coming into contact with Americans.

None more than African-Americans. Their treatment may have been worse than that of the Indians.

They were brought to these shores in chains. They were enslaved for well over a century.

After they were freed, they encountered crushing bias for another century. It has not ended yet, although their lot has improved in recent years.

The gains are largely the result of the civil rights revolution they launched in the 1960s. Before then, many African-Americans were confined to urban ghettos just as tightly as many

Indians are isolated on their reservations now.

The African-Americans rebelled at the indignities and limitations imposed on them. They wanted to be in the mainstream of American life. They demanded the opportunity to compete on a level playing field.

They protested publicly. They got themselves elected to public office at all levels of the government. They made the political system work for them.

By contrast, most Indians cling together outside the mainstream. That deprives them of opportunities that a vast majority of Americans, including other minorities, seek. The Indians are content to accept the handouts of the federal government.

Many tribes have gone into the gambling business under a wrong-headed federal law. This was one of the more inane, destructive programs ever created by Congress.

The Indians are encouraged to engage in an activity that lacks a sound economic and socially redeeming foundation. It undermines the traditional work ethic.

Mainstreaming, which is what the Indians need and deserve, works. Recent reform of the nation's welfare system is demonstrating how recipients once dependent on public assistance can function successfully in the workplace.

Many find the mainstream rewarding, just as minorities have when given the chance. The exception is the American Indian.

It is time for that to change.

Department of Planning & Environmental Program

Staff from the Tribe's Planning & Environmental Protection Program continue to coordinate a wide variety of projects, including the Solid Waste Program, Water Quality Monitoring, Soldier Creek Watershed Working Group, Indoor Air Quality, Planning & Permits, Orchard Project, Land Use Survey & Census 2000. In addition staff are participating on the national level as representatives for both the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and EPA's Region VII. These appointments and upcoming meeting dates are included.

SOLID WASTE PROGRAM - In October, the Tribal Council approved funding and support of the Tribal Solid Waste Program, with Roy Spoonhunter coordinating this program expansion. He has consolidated the contract for dumpster service for the Reservation for a cost savings to the Tribe and is expanding the recycling opportunities for community residents. Additional staff is being added in order to provide both increased and dependable service to offices and community. The C & D Landfill, located on L Road, will be serving the Tribe's needs and unacceptable waste is referred to the Jackson County Transfer Station on 166 Road. Codes to support the solid waste program are in draft form for public input and adoption by the Tribal Council, to be effective following public noticing.

The Tribal Council appointed Roy Spoonhunter by resolution in November to serve a one year term on the national Board of Directors for the TASWER (Tribal Association on Solid Waste and Emergency Response). This will be a valuable outreach for the Tribe as well as other tribes in this Midwest region.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING - Fall quarterly sampling in Little Soldier and Big Soldier Creeks was conducted by USGS and the PBP Environmental Dept. in early November. The data report for 1996-1998 has been completed and will be available in mid-January. Winter quarter sampling will be scheduled in February. Greg Wold, biologist, coordinates this work and is working with staff at Haskell Indian Nations University to acquire a mobile lab for use and increased training here on the Reservation.

SOLDIER CREEK WATERSHED WORKING GROUP - On September 29th, the kick-off meeting for this important group was held, with approximately 45 community members attending. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for January 20th. Some of the concerns raised in September that will be discussed further include: best soils for farming; ways to reduce erosion in Soldier Creek; potential for retention dams; maintaining good riparian buffers; records of pesticide use; restoring woodland habitat and wetland areas; and identifying priority EQIP areas. Give Greg Wold a call at 966-2946 to indicate your plans to attend. A contract with USGS for groundwater testing has just started. Get involved in developing our watershed management plans together!

INDOOR AIR QUALITY - Program staff will be scheduling testing for housing units on the Reservation to complete required or requested radon and lead-based paint testing this winter and spring. Radon gas comes up from the ground and is commonly found in rock and soil. It is not dangerous in the outside air, but is a problem when trapped inside homes or buildings. Radon gas decays into radioactive particles that can get trapped in your lungs when you breathe, causing damage to lung tissue and lead to lung cancer. If you have questions or want to schedule testing call Virginia LeClere or Roy Spoonhunter at 966-2946.

PLANNING & PERMITS - All permits for building homes, additions, or Special Use Permits for manufactured housing or variances, and sanitary facilities are obtained from the Planning Department (L. Donelin), located on K Road. Coordination with BIA and Indian Health Service is part of the permitting process. There were 33 applications for various permits during 1999. The Potawatomi Planning Commission meets monthly to review applications as needed. Both Dolly Potts and Warren Pugh were re-appointed by the Tribal Council for 3 year terms and Paul Slattery was appointed for 2 years to fill the unexpired term of Jim McCauley. Jim received a plaque of appreciation for his service from 1995 to 1999.

The Re-zoning request for an 80 acre tract on 142nd Road from A-P (Agriculture-Protection) to R-S (Rural Residential Subdivision) was recommended for approval at the December meeting. Regular meetings are the 3rd Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm each month at the Housing Authority conference room on 156th Lane.

ORCHARD PROJECT - Greg Wold coordinates work for the orchard with the Lands Department. Currently staff are waiting on the placement of a water meter in order to install irrigation for the coming season. Additional varieties of apple and cherry trees, and grape, raspberry and blackberry cane stock have been ordered for spring planting.

LAND USE SURVEY & CENSUS 2000 - Virginia LeClere completed the survey distribution to update existing land use information with good participation. In November, Beatrice Ramirez was the lucky winner of the drawing from all returned survey participants, for Dinner and Bingo package for 2 at Harrah's. More work is continuing to complete the information update.

Jason Auvil is organizing a database to map all the ownership and resource data for the reservation.

Virginia LeClere and Latane Donelin have been working with Vestina Nonken to complete any Census 2000 updates requested. Tribal member, Arlene Lingo, has been hired by the Census Bureau and will have an office at the Sr. Citizen Center (966-2771) to assist with forms. (See special article.)

RESERVATION ROADS IMPROVEMENT TO BECOME A REALITY

By James Jackson

For years getting stuck on reservation roads was a daily event which usually occurred after a good rain. Well we can say good-bye to those days, at least for a few miles. Tribal council agreed to the five year plan on roads presented to them by members of the Building Committee. The plan would include major improvements covering several miles over a five year span.

In the first year, the plan calls for seven and one half miles of asphalt roads. "It's about time something was done about these roads" quoted Calvin Evans. You couldn't even pull over to the side of the road without getting mired down in the mud and sliding in the ditch or getting stuck. Then you would have to walk or wait for somebody to come along and pull you out. Because of Casino Revenues, the tribe can now afford to make the necessary improvements to these roads. The biggest problem with the current roads are drainage, ditches and no underbase.

The plans call for the asphalt roads to be twenty four foot wide with a six inch base of asphalt. The first year roads set for improvement are M rd. from 158th to 150th rd., N rd. from 158th to 166th, P rd. from 158th to 150th, Q rd. from 158th to 162nd, K rd. from 158th to 166th, K rd from 166th to 174th, and K rd. from 142nd to 150th rd. The cost of these roads will be funded entirely from Casino Revenues. In 1998 a Revenues Allocation Plan was approved in a General Council Meeting. We still have money that wasn't spent from the 1998 Economic Development Section of the pie chart. The roads are just one segment of the five year plan. The five year roads plan will be displayed at the General Council Meeting scheduled for January.

Improving the reservation roads are a major concern especially for new tribal economic development, housing, and attracting new business ventures.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

by James Jackson

A Boys & Girls Club on the reservation? That was the question asked in a Tribal Council meeting held Tuesday January 4, 2000 at the tribal office. Boy's & Girls Clubs are becoming popular throughout Indian country. They are proven methods of decreasing problems today's youth experience on reservations.

One of the biggest problems teenagers face in today's society on reservations is boredom. When a child has nothing to look forward to, a lot of kids turn to alcohol, drugs, or crime.

To head that problem off Tribal Council approved the development of a Boy's & Girls Club. The club will be part of the Boys & Girls National Clubs of America. Currently the Tribe has a Youth Group but because of space was never able to implement many of the programs available. Programs such as education, social recreation, fitness, and cultural enrichment. These are but a few programs B&GCA have to offer.

Intensive research will begin this month starting with local parents & teenagers to see what they would like to see in the Club. One idea is to look at the twenty one year old tribal gym to see whether the location and building could be utilized for this project.

Right now the Senior Citizen Program occupy half the gym. The Senior Citizen Building will be completed later this year.

Tribal Court News

Wow it is year 2000 already and we survived the Y2K bug!

First and foremost, I want to publicly thank Tribal Council for the hard work they do to govern and run the business of this Great Nation and for allowing me the opportunity to serve the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation people as their Administrative District Judge.

Preservation of Tribal sovereignty and service to the Potawatomi people are the foundation missions of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation court system.

This past year Tribal Council passed Law and Order codes such as traffic, wildlife conservation, and environmental that increased the court caseloads while reinforcing Tribal sovereignty. These laws are enforced on all person, Indian and non-Indian alike.

There must be a strong Tribal Court to insure Tribal sovereignty. To add to that strength, a new position of Judicial Administrator was established to be the chief non-judicial position that supervises all court personnel and sees that all the needs are met in the operation of the Tribal District Court and The Appeals Court.

There were six persons who applied for the position with one canceling the day of interviews. Dale Delg, Director of Human Resources, and I allowed thirty minutes to each applicant. At the conclusion of the interviews, we had reduced the choice to three; two were tribal members and one non-member.

It was easy to make our final selection, Royetta Rodewald, when you consider she worked hand in hand with the Tribal attorney that negotiated the Gaming Compact with State of Kansas for the PBP nation and had been the sole support staff for the Jackson County Attorney's office and Chief of Staff/Administrator of the Jefferson County Attorney's office. She, most recently, worked with the PBP Gaming Commission and this Tribal newspaper.

These past three months have been very exciting and productive. Our new Judicial Administrator, Royetta Rodewald, has been the perfect Court team member for me to carry out the vision of Tribal Council to develop the Judicial Branch of Tribal Government.

Royetta and I had a great experience at the National Judicial College at the University of Arizona at Reno. As part of our Tribal Court Administration Training we were asked to prioritize and concentrate on what we wanted to take back to our court system, then develop a plan to carry through to completion.

We are concentrating our efforts on making the court more uses friendly, to provide legal assistance to Tribal members through legal interns from Washburn Law School and Kansas University Law School, and the development of user-friendly court forms with plain English instructions. We will also be developing court rules and suggested Law and Order changes.

If we can be of any help to you, please call or send us a letter with your question or request.

From the Judicial Branch of Tribal Government, we wish you a Happy New Year.

DON'T FORGET TO CAST YOUR BALLOT IN THE YEAR 2000

GREETINGS FROM THE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

In October, Tribal Police Dispatch assumed dispatch responsibilities for the Fire Department. The phone number to request assistance from the Fire Department is still 966-2131. If you need fire/medical personnel sent to your location, please let the dispatcher know this immediately when you call. Assistance will not arrive any quicker if you dial the fire department directly on their 966-2164 number. In fact, it may be delayed further as the responding unit will then have to call dispatch to relay the message. Our dispatchers have direct radio contact with all fire/medical units and will dispatch units immediately.

Recently, the Kansas Highway Patrol Training and Audit Division audited our Communications Center. The auditor was very impressed with our communications center, our policies and procedures, and the training our dispatchers receive. He was so impressed that the tribal police may be nominated for an audit by the FBI. Only the top fourteen (14) communication units in the state are recommended for this honor.

We have several new faces at the Police Department. We had four new employees start in November. Tim Morse, Tribal Police Officer, comes to us from Jefferson County where he worked as a dispatcher. Herb Nance, Tribal Police Officer, has over twenty years experience in Law Enforcement (Texas) and most recently worked at Harrah's Casino in security. We also have 2 new dispatchers, Minday Wahwassuck and Robert Neill. Both Mindy and Robert are new in Law Enforcement; they are quickly learning and enjoying their new jobs.



This old photo is of James Jackson and Joel Charles. James Kegg decided one day to dress the two boys in his traditional clothing. Note the floral design in the beadwork. Much of the Potawatomi design was originally patterned after the Ojibwa and Menominee floral work. A few years later, all of this clothing, blankets and beadwork burned up in house-fire.

Some Facts about Indian veterans

Eli S. Parker, Seneca from New York, was at Appomattox as aide to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant when Lee surrendered, and the unit of Confederate Brigadier General Stan Watie (Cherokee) was the last to surrender.

It was not until World War I that Indians demonstrated patriotism (6,000 of the more than 8,000 who served were volunteers) moved Congress to pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924.

In World War II, 25,000 Indian men and women, mainly enlisted Army personnel, fought on all fronts in Europe and Asia, winning (according to an incomplete count) 71 Air Medals, 51 Silver Stars, 47 Bronze Stars, 34 Distinguished Flying Crosses, and two Congressional Medals of Honor.

The most famous Indian exploit of World War II was the use by 450 Navajo Marines of their language as a battlefield code, the only such code which the enemy could not break.

In the Korean conflict, there was one Indian Congressional Medal of Honor winner, Mitchell Red Cloud.

In the Vietnam War, 41,500 Indians served in the military forces. In 1990, prior to Operation Desert Storm, some 24,000 Indian men and women were in the military.

Approximately 3,000 served in Persian Gulf with three among those killed in action. One out of every four Indian males is a military veteran and 45 to 47 percent of tribal leaders are military veterans.

Children's Section

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1999 Potawatomi Flag Football Team (Above)
1999 Potawatomi Volley Ball Team (Below)



High-schoolers don't know Much about the economy

By the time they're in high school, most American kids have mastered the numbers filling their math books, but what about their check-books? Call it economic illiteracy. The majority, 60%, of U.S. high school students don't understand the purpose of profits and think wages are set by the government, according to the National Council on Economic Education, which announced a five-year campaign to get kids out of the educational red. Experts say the costs of an economically uninformed public are high: ballooning rates of personal bankruptcy, credit card debt, and shady investments. Although 39 states have written guidelines for economics education in kindergarten through 12 grade, just nine require students to take an economics course.

- Source: USA Today, December 15, 1999, 9D

Use occasional rewards to Motive kids

Sometimes even the best students don't feel motivated to finish a tough assignment. When this happens, it's okay to let your child promise himself a reward for hard work. The prize might be playing ball, reading a comic book or chattering on the phone. Let your child pick something that will encourage him (within reason).

Two cautions: Avoid using junk food. And make sure the reward matches the work (Two hours of TV is too much for finishing a 15-minute assignment). Keep in mind that you shouldn't use rewards too often. A feeling of success should usually be reward enough.

Source: Helping Students Learn, December, 1999

Learn about the four Types of homework

While doing homework, your child asks questions like, "Why do I have to do these problems? It's helpful to know why teachers assign different types of homework. Here are the four main types of assignments - and the reasons schools use them:

1. **Practice homework.** Kids need to do the same kind of work repeatedly to help them learn a skill. This is especially true when it comes to solving math problems and using vocabulary words.
2. **Preparation homework.** These assignments introduce kids to new topics. For instance, students might read a book about animals before studying animal families.
3. **Extension homework.** Children need to be able to connect separate topics. They might be asked to compare two historic events, for example.
4. **Creative homework.** It's challenging for kids to use different skills to show what they've learned. For instance, your child might be asked to build a model for science class.

All homework builds self-discipline. So even if you don't see a reason for an assignment, your child should do it.

Source: Helping Students Learn. Tips Families can use to help students do better in school, December, 1999.

Use Pictures to remember key ideas

Here's a tip to help your child remember what she studies: use pictures. Once she's taken notes on a chapter, have her go back and draw a picture or diagram to illustrate key points. The idea isn't to see how good an artist can be, it's to give her a helpful way of visualizing what she's learned.

Source: Helping Students Learn, December, 1999

Survey says...TV still dominates kids' attention

The typical American child over age 2 spends more than 33 hours a week being electronically entertained, according to a new survey of kids and media use.

Children still read, too, but they spend five times as much of their average day outside of school in front of some type of video screen as they do with the printed word, according to a study released by the Kaiser Family Foundation, a national health care research and education charity.

"Watching TV, playing video games, listening to music and surfing the Internet have become a full-time job for the typical American child," said Kaiser Foundation President Drew Altman. "This study really underscores the importance of paying attention to the messages and information kids are getting from the media, both good and bad."

The study, "Kids and Media (at) the New Millennium," examined media used among a nationally representative sample of more than 3,000 children age 2 to 18, including more than 600 who kept detailed diaries of media use. The count did not include time spent with various media in the classroom or for school work.

Media use of all types increases among kids as they age. Children under 8 averaged more than three hours a day; those over 8, nearly seven hours a day.

The survey shows kids are still more likely to be channel surfing the Net. "Computers may be the wave of the future, but TV still dominates kids' time and attention today," said Vicky Rideout, director of the foundation's program to study the impact of entertainment media on public health.

Overall, children devoted more than three hours a day to watching television or videos, and an hour-and-a-half listening to music on CDs, tapes or radio, but just 21 minutes "using a computer for fun."

Only 9 percent of all kids said they spent more

than an hour a day on the computer for fun, while 64 percent spent more than an hour a day watching TV, and 17 percent spent more than five hours a day with television. Music took an hour or more a day for 36 percent of all children.

"After TV, music is the medium of choice for most kids, especially older teens," said Donald Roberts, a professor of communications at Stanford University and a co-author of the study.

Reading for fun claimed just 44 minutes a day, but 82 percent of youngsters said they did at least some reading for fun each day.

The study found that among kids 8 and older, more than two-thirds have a TV in their bedrooms. And about 60 percent said the TV is usually on during meals in their home, and that their parents have no set no rules about TV watching.

Even among the 2-to-7-year-old set, 32 percent had a TV in their bedroom, and about a third of their parents reported the TV is on in their homes "most of the time."

Although they're not using computers much for fun, 69 percent of kids said they have a computer in their home, and among those 8 and older, 21 percent said they have one in their bedroom.

There were some significant income disparities for computer use. Nearly half of all children living in upper-income communities said they used a computer outside school on a typical day, while just 23 percent of those living in lower-income communities did. But the study found that about a third of all kids used a computer in class each day, no matter what their income level.

Source: Lee Bowman, Scripps's Howard News Service, The Albuquerque Tribune, November 18, 1999, p. A7



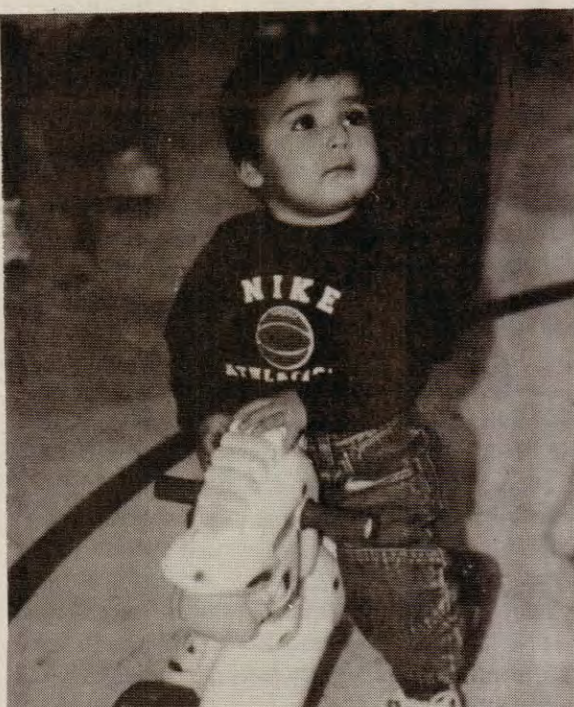
1999 Potawatomi Volley Ball Team

To get answers, Ask the right questions about school

Sometimes you may feel as if your child is training to become a secret agent. No matter what you do, she won't tell you anything about school. Here are some questions that can't be answered with a simple "yes" or "no." Give them a try...but not all at once!

- What are you really good at in school?
- Which class do you look forward to most? Why?
- Which school staff members could you go to with a problem?
- What changes would you like to see at the school?
- Is your schoolwork too hard, too easy or about right?
- What's one thing you wish people knew about your school?
- When are you most comfortable expressing your ideas at school?

Source: Helping Students Learn, December, 1999



Three tribal members make pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Vivian Ketchumme, Maxine Ramirez and Lavera (Babe) Bell, three Prairie Band of Potawatomi tribal members travel across the world to visit the Holy Land.

By Doris Potts

What do you have when 3 high-spirited and life-loving women come up with ten thousand dollars? When you think ordinary women, you would come up with answers like: shopping sprees, exotic vacations, new furniture, or a secret stash for a rainy day. The scenario is not quite that simple in this situation. The scene starts at Sunday church services at Our Lady of the Snows here on the Potawatomi Reservation. The 3 ladies being referred to are not your ordinary ladies. You know them as Vivian Ketchumme, Maxine Ramirez, and Lavera Bell (Babe)—all well respected, enthusiastic, and adventurous ladies.

They just recently were presented with an opportunity to visit the Holy Land & Rome, a 13-day (Oct. 25- Nov. 6, 1999) journey, a "once-in-a-lifetime experience." This was not your random drawing of who would be taking this trip, as the participants were required to pay their own expenses—all three to four thousand dollars worth per person. Since that was the situation, you now understand why I say, these ladies are not your ordinary women.

When the 3 ladies heard of this journey to the Holy Land as presented to them by their pastor, Father Ron, their immediate response to one another was, "We have to go!" And that is how it all began for these 3 determined ladies. The Archdiocese of Kansas City plans the trip once every two years. Father Ron does the actual selection for the local participants. Their group involved ninety-five participants from the northeast Kansas area.

Once the ladies knew the trip had a "green light" attached to it, they had the task of coming up with the big bucks for this humbling experience. The Tribe gave them \$100.00 and their church gave them \$100.00. The remaining nine to ten thousand dollars was raised by means of fund-raisers sponsored by these ladies. So if you partook in Vivian's breakfast burritos,



Lavera "Babe" Bell, Maxine Ramirez and Vivian Ketchumme
(In the background is the City of Rome)

Photo submitted

you were an official sponsor of her camel ride or her float on the Dead Sea. Ask her about that as she delights in detailing her adventures. Their departing 13-hour flight began in Kansas City and ended in Tel Aviv the next day. The ladies had to practice for a couple of weeks for the time change as advised by Dr. Abbott. They said that was very helpful as they would have ran around exhausted all of the time if they had not done that. Their schedules were so activity-filled that being tired would never have worked for them. They walked and walked everyday. Just to highlight a few of the main tourist attractions, they visited Rome

for 3 days, Sea of Galilee, Jordan River, Tiberias, Cana, Mt. Tabor, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and the Vatican Museum. Of course, they had prayer service for an hour every morning. These ladies brought numerous treasures from their trip that includes many pictures, souvenirs, videos, booklets and magazines. The greatest treasure of this experience is the joy these ladies portray when visiting them about their trip.

The ladies gave a presentation to the Day Care Center. Their excitement, alone, is enough to want to hear about their trip. So, given the wonderful opportunity, phone one of these ladies and share in their "once-in-a-lifetime experience. It may be the closest you get to Rome!



Vivian Ketchumme and a camel ride in Jerusalem

Photo submitted

Staff Sergeant Edward "Shum Ne" Rice United States Army Unit 215th 1920-1970

Eddie was born on August 19, 1920 to Maude (Nah-quh-Be) and Richard Rice. Richard Rice was a descendant of Note-no-que and Nes-sekah. Eddie had 3 brothers: Collins, Harley and Alfred Greene. His sisters were Dorothy and Virginia Greene. Survivors include 3 daughters: Edwina, Emily and Mickey Jean. Others survivors include: nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Many relatives live on the Winnebago, Kickapoo, and Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservations.

Shum-ne was inducted on July 13, 1942 when he was twenty-two years old, attended the Las Vegas, Nevada Gunnery School, and became a staff sergeant in February 1943. As an Aerial Gunner, Shum-ne participated in forty-six combat missions in the Asiatic Pacific Theatre of Operations. Shum-ne was lost for eight days on a Pacific Island. With help of his unit along with prayers of family and friends, he was rescued.

Shum-ne was issued a Distinguished Flying Cross With Four Oak Leaf Clusters and a Good Conduct Medal in December 1942. Shum-ne served 3 years fighting for our country; he received his Honorable Discharge in 1945 at the Pueblo Army Air Base.

Following his Honorable Discharge, Shum-ne went home where he spent his time doing leather craft, fishing, hunting, and being outdoors. He was a kind, patient, and comical man—making him fun to be around. He loved his family and friends. Shum-ne practiced his Native American beliefs.

At the 2nd Annual We-Ta-Se Pow Wow, Mickey Jean, daughter of Eddie Rice (Shum-ne), was presented with the following seven honorary medals by Mr. Steve Goodman, Aid to Veterans from Senator Brownback's office. It was not known if Shum-ne received these or if he was even aware that he had earned these medals.

- Distinguished Flying Cross With Four Oak Leaf Clusters
- Victory Medal WWII
- Asian Pacific Campaign Medal
- American Campaign Medal
- American Air medal
- Army Good Conduct Medal
- Army Lapel Pin

Shum-ne is a war hero and will never be forgotten! Shum-ne met our Creator in March 1970 at the early age of 49 years old.



Steve Goodman presents honorary WWII medals to Mickey Martinez, daughter of Edward "Shum ne" Rice at the 2nd Annual We Ta Se Pow-Wow

In Memory Of Clint Levi Wahquahboshkuk

February 26, 1976 – September 10, 1999

A Message of Love

On September 10, 1999, a beautiful young man named Clint Levi Wahquahboshkuk died from serious head injuries suffered in a single vehicle accident on August 29, 1999. In that accident three other young men died and that means that four young men will not realize their life dreams or hopes. The world will never know the true loss of this terrible accident.

His friends, coworkers, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, nephew, cousins, grandparents and parents loved Clint. If you knew him, you loved him. Everyone wanted to be part of his world and be his friend. And we loved him completely and will have that love in our hearts forever. No one that knew and loved Clint will ever forget those feelings and he will remain a part of us. He will be in our world by our memories and we will be together again. His death reminds us that life is short. We need to remember what is important in our lives. Each moment with our families should be cherished. Our children are our threads to the future and we need to love them each and every minute of our lives.

Clint wrote in his journal of August 24, 1999 "Learn to pull together as a family and get through the complicated and sad times. Together we can pull through this so hold a hand and let it all out for he sake of both of you, only together as one can we get through this tragic event in our life.....To deny family is to deny a part of ourselves.....So love your family, everyday and forever. I know that I have a hard time doing all of this, but at least I recognize it now."

His journal spoke of his life and his true thoughts. His writings gave an insight into his feelings and will give some peace to those that love him. He will be sadly missed. Thank you to each of you for all the many acts of kindness that you gave to our family. Words will never be sufficient to express our true gratitude for all that our family and friends did at this time.

Submitted lovingly by his mother.

NOM KI WASH POTTS
IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE
HIS PARENTS
JOHN "SAM" POTTS AND REBEKAH
JONES
ARE ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED
APRIL 29, 2000

From the PBP Education Department...

Spring Semester 2000 awards are being processed. In addition to our continuing students, we have added 18 former and new students for this semester. Transcripts are arriving daily for renewal awards for students funded this past Fall Semester 1999. If you received a scholarship for Fall Semester, all you need to submit for Spring Semester is your official transcript showing Fall Semester grades. After the transcripts are reviewed to verify at least a 2.0 grade point average, and 12 credit hours have been completed, awards for continuing students are then processed. **Students must reapply for our scholarship programs each school year.** Deadline for completed applications is July 1st.

There are many scholarship programs available outside the Tribe. Native American Scholarship Fund has several -- MES-BEC (math, engineering, science, business education and computers); NALE (Native American Leadership in Education) for education, counseling, school administration; General Scholarship Program. For further information, including deadline dates, contact: Native American Scholarship Fund, 8200 Mountain Road NE, Suite 203, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110; phone 505/262-2351; fax 505/262-0534; web site: www.nasf.com.

Health profession scholarships are available through the Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service. Preparatory scholarships and pregraduate scholarships are included. Contact: Area Scholarship Coordinator, Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service, Five Corporate Plaza, 3625 Northwest 56th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112-4519; phone 405/951-3939.

The American Indian College Fund is another source for many scholarships. Their address is 1111 Osage Street, Building D, Suite 205, Denver, Colorado 80204; phone 303/892-8312; web site: <http://collegefund.org>.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has contributed \$1 billion toward the higher education of ethnic minorities. The Gates Millennium Scholars program will provide scholarships and fellowships for outstanding low-income African-American, Native American, Hispanic American and Asian American students to attend undergraduate and graduate institutions of their choice. Awards will supplement existing financial aid. The basic scholarship for undergraduate students is unrestricted in terms of major or area of study; however, considered will be the students' academic performance in mathematics and science. Engineering, mathematics, science, education or library science will be the advanced degrees funded for graduate students. The scholarships for Native Americans will be administered through the Native American College Fund. Web site: <http://www.gmsp.org>.

For any questions or additional information, contact Sharon McClane, Education Administrator, 15434 K Road, Mayetta, Kansas 66509; phone 785/966-2960; fax 785/966-2956.

The Back Page

Winter, 2000

Prairie Band of Potawatomi News

Commission on Native American Affairs

By Gary E. Mitchell

House Bill No. 2915 will be introduced in the coming Kansas legislative schedule. This was introduced by Representative Welland and the act is to establish an advisory commission on Native American Indian affairs.

The advisory commission will be comprised of eight members: One representative from each of the four Kansas tribes, one member from Haskell Indian Nations university, one member from the urban Indian community and one senator and one representative from the State of Kansas. Each member will serve a two-year term. The advisory commission will meet at least four times a year.

One of the first responsibilities of the commission is to appoint an executive director. His/her job is to gather information, disseminate findings of fact and other information, forwarding proposals and evaluations to the secretary of human resources, the governor, the legislature and various state agencies, carrying out public education programs, conducting hearings and conferences and performing other duties necessary for the proper operation of the advisory commission.

The advisory commission will have the following functions, powers and duties:

- Coordinate intergovernmental dealings between tribal governments and the State of Kansas;
- Investigate the needs of Native Americans in the State of Kansas and provide technical assistance in the preparation of plans for the alleviation of such needs;
- Cooperate with and secure the assistance of the local, state and federal governments or any agencies thereof in formulating and coordinating programs regarding Native American affairs adopted or planned by the federal government so that the full benefit of such programs will accrue to the Native Americans of Kansas;
- review and make recommendations of all proposed or pending legislation and amendments to the existing legislation affecting Native Americans in Kansas;
- Study and the existing status of recognition of all Native American groups, tribes and communities presently existing in Kansas;
- accept and receive gifts, funds, grants, bequests and contributions for use in furthering the purposes of the commission;
- contract with public or private bodies to provide services and facilities for promoting the welfare of the Indian people;
- solicit, receive and expend federal funds to effectuate the purposes the act and enter into contracts and agreements with any federal agency for this purpose;
- stimulate public awareness of the concerns and problems of Native Americans by conducting a program of public education;
- conduct training programs for community leadership and service project staff; and
- submit an annual report to the governor, the senate and the house of representatives on the activities of the commission.

House Bill No 2915 will take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

A POTAWATOMI FIVE YEAR REVIEW

- Casino
 - State Compact
- Road Improvements
 - 158th Road – Blacktop
 - Roads and bridges improved – 150th and 158th Roads
 - Road and Bridge taken on more roads
- New Buildings
 - We-Ta-Se Building
 - PARR Ranch Facility
 - Early Childhood Development Center
 - Government Center
 - Law Enforcement Center
 - PBP Nation Station
 - Gift Shop
 - Museum
 - Renovated Bingo Hall
 - Pow-Wow Grounds – Prairie People's Park
- New Programs – Expansion and Improvements
 - American Legion
 - PARR Ranch Halfway House
 - Youth Group
 - Law Enforcement
 - Employee Assistance Program
 - Social Services
 - Per Capita
 - PBP Nation Station
 - Human Resource Department
 - Land Repatriation Department
 - Senior Citizens Meal Site and Elder Center
 - Museum
 - Gift Shop
 - Executive Director
 - Language Program
 - Buffalo Herd Program
 - Tribal Emergency Services (T.E.S.)
 - Fire Station improved
 - Court System improved
 - Child care and Head Start improved
 - Computer lab at Education Department
- Land Repatriation
 - Buffalo Reserve
 - Repurchase land
 - Burial Sites
- Fringe Benefits
 - Casino Revenue
 - Per Capita Payments
- More (expanded) employment opportunities
 - More employment and better pay
 - Improved technology and communications
 - New employee training and communications
 - Existing employee training
- Casino is largest employer in Jackson County
- Job Skills Program

Source: Tribal employee brainstorming meeting

A LISTING OF TRIBAL COMMITTEES

Grievance Committee

Sherry Landis
Paula Moore
Robert Shuckahosee

Personnel Advisory Board

Dale Delg
Mary LeClere
James Battese
Melvin "Sonny" Jessepe
John Crites
Vestina Nonken, TC Liaison

Education Committee

Gary Mitchell, Chm.
Mary Mitchell, Secy.
Arlene Wahwassuck
Venita Chenault
Sharon McClane, Educ. Director

Enrollment Committee

Cecelia Jackson
Alberta Wamego
Orlando Green
Grace Wahwassuck, Director

Election Board

Rosemary Wahweotten, Chm.
Voncile Mitchell
Julia Barber

Land Committee

Galen Kabance
Bruce Yonke
Jeff Laudner
Latane Donelin
Gilreath Aikens
Joe Jessepe
Dawn "Sogi" LeClere, Alternate
Rey Kitchkumme, TC Liaison

Planning & Zoning Board

Latane Donelin, EPA Director
Dolly Potts
Tony Wahweotten

Pat Mahkuk
Jim McCauley
Warren Pugh
Marjorie Shenk
Barbara Hittle

Headstart Policy Council

Jackie Mitchell, Director/Liaison
Arlene Lingo
Sharon McClane

Johnson O'Malley Committee

Lavern Hale, Chm.
Paula Moore
Linda Tecumseh
Mary Mitchell

Title IX Committee

Anita Evans, Director
Rubina Eteeyan
Norma Shipshee
Linda Tecumseh
Elizabeth Tye
Carrie O'Toole

Housing Authority

Presently the Tribal Council

Building Committee

James Jackson
Calvin Evans
James Potter
Gary Mitchell

Health Board – Kansas Service Unit

Brenda Nozhackhum, CHR
Vestina Nonken
Mamie Rupnicki

Community Services Committee

Mary Ellen Clinton, Chm.
Camilla Chouteau
Glen Levier

Virginia LeClere

Pow-Wow Committee

Camilla Chouteau, Chm.
Peggy Houston
Ruth Ann Jessepe
Rey Kitchkumme, TC Liaison

Impact Aid Committee

Anita Evans
Sharon McClane
Carrie O'Toole
Dave Danielson
Royetta Rodewald
Lavern Hale
Rey Kitchkumme
Marceta Reilly, Supt. RVHS

Employee Appreciation Day Committee

Michelle Simon, Chm.
Dale Delg
Rubina Eteeyan
Lori Mulanax
Cheri-Micol Smith

Tribal Emergency

Response Committee (TERC)

Dan McKinney
Melvin Lewis
Raymond Nioce
James Battese
John Crites
Alan Brend
Greg Abbott
Vestina Nonkin
Ronnie Zerrer
Roy Spoonhunter
Latane Donelin
Jason Auvil
Charlie Seymour
Janis Shopteese
Kabot Hale
Brenda Creek
Dale Delg
Pat Korte

Diana Durham
Mary LeClere
Darrell Ingels
Charlie Delbiaggio
Beth Delbiaggio
Patrick Brown

Constitutional Committee

Venita Chenault, Chr.
Angie Wahweotten
Doris Potts
Laura Abeyta
Burns
Daniel Dyer
Gary Mitchell

Strategic Planning Committee

Royetta Rodewald
Dale Delg
Ronnie Zerrer
Sandy Knoxsah
Eric Sanderson
Latane Donelin
Gary Mitchell

Judicial Committee

Roy Odgen
Shirley Rice
Lysette Morris
Brenda McClure
Burns

Tribal Review Team

Juanita Jessepe
Shelli Osterle
Rick Burns

Parent Advisory Committee

Gary Mitchell, Chr.
Laverne Hale, Vice-Chr.
Linda Tecumseh, Sec.
Plus nine members

Tax Time Information Or Do I pay taxes on my child's per capita?

Since death and taxes are the only things certain in life, as some say, the Gaming Commission has contracted Berberich and Trahan & Co, Certified Public Accountants of Topeka, Kansas to provide some information about the implications to a minor tribal member when the minor child receives a per capita distribution from the tribe. The examples do not reflect the effects of any federal withholding that may be required. The examples do not reflect any calculations for state tax or state withholding which may be required. These examples are provided to the tribal membership as a courtesy and hopefully this will answer some often asked questions about per capita payments to tribal minors.

Distributions to minors under the age of 14:

Special rules apply to children under the age of 14 who have unearned income of more than a certain inflation-adjusted amount (\$1,400 in 1998). Effectively, the law imposes the parents' marginal tax rate is higher than the parents' tax rate. The Kiddie Tax applies to any child who as of the close of the tax year (1) is not age 14, (2) has a least one living parent, and (3) has unearned income in excess of the inflation-adjusted amount (\$1,400 in 1998)

Example 1:

A minor child under the age of 14 receives a per capita distribution in the amount of \$1,000. The child has no other income. How will the child be taxed?

The child will be allowed a standard deduction of \$700, adjusted for inflation on a yearly basis. This results in the child having taxable unearned income of \$300 (\$1,00 less \$700). The first \$1,400 of unearned income is taxed at the child's rate (presumed to be 15%). Because the child's unearned income of \$1,000 does not exceed \$1,400, the full \$300 of taxable income of the child will be taxed at the child's rate of 15% resulting in federal tax of \$45 (\$300 X 15%)

Example 2:

A minor child under the age of 14 receives a per capita distribution in the amount of \$1,000 and has earned income of \$1,000. How will the child be taxed on the income?

The child will be allowed an inflation-adjusted standard deduction up to the amount of earned income, plus \$250. IN 1998, this amount could not exceed \$4,250. In this example the minor child will be allowed a standard deduction of \$1,250 (\$1,000 of earned income plus \$250) resulting in \$750 (\$2,000 less \$1,250) of taxable income. Because the child's unearned income does not exceed \$1,400, the \$750 of taxable income will be taxed at the child's rate (presumed to be 15%) resulting in federal tax of \$113 (\$750 X 15%)

Example 3:

A minor child under the age of 14 received a per capita distribution in the amount of \$2,000. The child has no other income. How will the child be taxed?

The child will be allowed an inflation-adjusted standard deduction of \$700. This results in the child having net taxable unearned income of \$1,300 (\$2,00 less \$700). The \$1,300 of taxable unearned income will be taxed in a two-tiered manner. The first tier will be taxed at the parent's highest marginal tax rate (15% to 39.6%) in this example it will be \$600 (\$2,000 unearned income less \$1,400 allowance). The remainder will be taxed at the child's tax rate (presumed to be 15%). This would result in total tax to the minor child of:

	\$600 at parents rate 15%-
39.6%	\$90 to \$238
	\$700 at child's rate of 15%
	\$105
	Range of Total Tax
	\$195 to \$343

Example 4:

A minor child under the age of 14 receives a per capita distribution in the amount of \$2,000 and also has earned income of \$2,000. How will the child be taxed on the income? The child will be allowed an inflation-adjusted standard deduction up to the amount of earned income, plus \$250. In 1998 this amount could not exceed \$4,250. The child will be allowed a standard deduction of \$2,250 (\$2,000 of earned income plus \$250 for unearned income). This results in taxable income to the child of \$1,750 (\$4,000 less \$2,250). The taxable income of \$1,750 will be taxed in a two-tiered manner. The first tier will be the child's unearned income taxed at the parent's highest marginal tax rate (15% to 39.6%). In the example this will be \$600 (\$2,000 unearned income less \$1,400 allowance). The remaining \$1,150 will be taxed at the child's tax rate (presumed to be 15%). This would result in total tax to the minor child of:

	\$600 at parents rate 15%-39.6%
	\$90 to \$238
	\$1,150 at child's rate of 15%
	\$173
	Range of total tax
	\$263 to \$411

Example 5:

A minor child over the age of 14, who is claimed as a dependent, by his parents, receives a per capita distribution in the amount of \$2,000. This child has no other income.

How will the child be taxed?

Since the child is over the age of 14 the "Kiddie Tax" does not apply. Therefore, the taxable income is all taxed at the child's rate of tax. In the example above, the child will be able to claim an inflation-adjusted standard deduction of \$700. The per capita distribution of \$2,00 less the standard deduction of \$700 results in \$1,300 of taxable income which will be taxed at the child's tax rate (presumed to be 15%). This would result in total tax to the minor child of \$195 (\$1,300 X 15%).

Example 6:

A minor child over the age of 14, who is claimed as a dependent by his parents receives a per capita distribution of \$2,000. The child also has \$2,000 in earned income. How will the child be taxed?

Since the child is over the age of 14 the "Kiddie Tax" does not apply. Therefore, the taxable income is all taxed at the child's rate of tax. The child will be able to claim a standard deduction equal tot he earned income plus \$250 not to exceed \$4,250 (adjusted for inflation on a yearly basis). In the example above, the child's standard deduction will be \$2,250 (\$2,000 earned income plus \$250). The taxable income of the child will therefore be \$1,750 (\$4,000 gross income less \$2,250 standard deduction). Because, the child is over the age of 14, the taxable income is all taxed at the child's tax rate (presumed to be 15%). This results in total tax to the minor of \$163 (\$1,750 X 15%).

Note:

In example 1 through 6, each child will be required to file his/her own tax return. In example 1 through 4 each child's return will need to include a Federal Form 8615 "Tax for Children Under Age 14 Who Have Investment Income of More Than \$1,400." The parent's are unable to file Federal form 8814 "Parent's Election To Report Child's Interest and Dividends" and include the child's income on their own return due to the fact that the unearned income reportable on Form 8814 is limited to interest, dividends, or capital gain distributions.

Note:

In example 1 through 6, each child will be required to file his/her own tax return. In example 1 through 4 each child's return will need to include a Federal Form 8615 "Tax for Children Under Age 14 Who Have Investment Income of More Than \$1,400." The parent's are unable to file Federal form 8814 "Parent's Election To Report Child's Interest and Dividends" and include the child's income on their own return due to the fact that the unearned income reportable on Form 8814 is limited to interest, dividends, or capital gain distributions.